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## Helms Declines To Discuss Meredith Letter

RALEIGH (AP) - Civil rights leader James H. Meredith would become "the most important Black Leader in America and the world in a letter he wrote to congressmen before joining Sen. Helms' staff.

"I need to know each other. ... I need to take control of all NAACP activities. ... I plan to take steps to help persons with AIDS, Hard Drug Addicts, persons with Syphilis and Lunatics removed from the Black communities and placed in institutions," he wrote in the same letter of January 1988.

Later, he wrote directly to Helms, asking "to establish a working relationship" with the Carolina Republican. Helms' goal is to become the base of future leadership of the Black community. "In order to accomplish this mission I will have to make powerful allies." A month later, Meredith asked Helms for a letter: "How can this benefit you? It will put your Liberal friends on the defensive regarding their charges of Racism and bigotry ... " Meredith joined Helms' Senate staff as a legislative assistant on Sept. 5, 1989, at a monthly salary of \$30,000 to \$40,000.

Since then, Meredith - who became known in 1962 as the first Black man to attend the University of Mississippi - has stirred controversy with statements attacking mainstream Black leaders. On Monday, the Washington Paper Roll Call published an article about the letters Meredith wrote before and after joining Helms' staff. Meredith had given letters to the newspaper, and News and Observer of Raleigh had them.

The letters show that Meredith had lobbied the senator for a long time, beginning with a December 1987 letter saying, "I consider you to be the strongest force in America by opposing the Liberal agenda." On Aug. 8, 1989 - a month before Meredith joined the Helms payroll - he reassured Helms that criticism from fellow Blacks wouldn't bother him. Helms is the one now holding the letters, he wrote to Helms. "I can tell you over 80 percent of all Black people are ready to jail from information coming in my own intelligence sources." In his January 1988 letter to Helms and other Helms' political and business leaders, Helms wrote: "My intelligence sources tell me that more than 60 percent of the Black community is involved in the Drug problem. Over 80 percent are tied to political corruptions." In July, Helms and other Black leaders demanded Meredith be fired because he had a similar accusation - on Helms' Senate stationery against Helms' NAACP delegates to the NAACP national convention.

In an interview Monday, Helms denied Meredith and declined to discuss details of the letters. Helms is not going to discuss my

relationship with Dr. Meredith with you or anybody else," the senator said. "That's none of your business. I know you're trying to make something out of it. But Dr. Meredith is a good man. He's motivated by Christian principles." Asked about Meredith's call for putting AIDS and syphilis victims in institutions, Helms said: "I have no comment about that. I never saw the letter. If you're going to ask me questions about things that he's written in the past, forget it." As for the aide's comments on Black leaders, Helms said: "I know that Dr. Meredith has been greatly concerned about the lack of action by the civil rights leaders relating to working with the Black community to upgrade their morality, reinstate the strength of the family and that sort of thing." Meredith, 58, declined to be interviewed Monday. "I'll talk with you after the election," he said, referring to Helms' Nov. 6 battle against Democrat Harvey Gantt, who is Black.

In a Sept. 17 memo to fellow Senate staffers, Meredith outlined his objectives. "The main area of interest is domestic policy, especially regarding the Black Race from the colonial period to the present," he said. "Much of what is today considered history regarding slavery is in fact originally abolitionist propaganda." He asked staffers to help him obtain information on 35 topics, including: "All major legislation on Slaves, Negroes, Coloreds and Blacks since colonial times," "National and State laws and policy on Addictive Drugs since colonial times," "All available official documents on American involvement in Slave Trade," and "FBI, CIA reports, documents, etc., on the Black Race and National Security."

## It's Frog Flipping, Ferris Wheel-Riding Time Again

RALEIGH (AP) - Workers have begun setting the stage for this year's state fair and while food and rides are part of the props, the stars once again will be animals.

Thousands of rabbits, goats, horses, sheep, cows and racing ducks will vie for space with balloon-toting youngsters Friday as the North Carolina State Fair opens for a 10-day run.

The fair will feature a petting zoo this year. But the largest number of animals will be in livestock displays and the buildings housing rabbits and poultry, not to mention the horses.

Lillian Young, who keeps track of animal displays at the fair, couldn't tally all the critters. But she said nearly 600 rabbits and more than 3,000 turkeys, geese, hens, roosters, bantams and ducks were on display last year.

And then there's Flip-A-Frog, a game in which wet, rubbery frogs are catapulted into revolving lily



MISS NCCU

## Miss NCCU Crowned

Terri Y. Rowland, daughter of John and Nancy Rowland of Durham, was crowned Miss North Carolina Central University for 1990-91 Sunday, October 7, in NCCU's B. N. Duke Auditorium.

A reception followed in the Alfonso Elder Student Union. Miss Rowland, a native of Durham, is a senior with a dual major in English / Media Journalism and Political Science. She plans to attend graduate school, and her goals include becoming a television anchorwoman.

The new Miss NCCU has been a member of the NCCU Student Government Association, the Eagleson Hall and Annie Day Shepard Hall House Councils, the NAACP, C. A. S. T., the Alfonso Elder Student Union Program Board, and the Pan Hellenic Council. She has participated in NCCU dramatic arts productions, written for the Campus Echo newspaper, served as statistician for the men's basketball team, and served as secretary at Baynes Hall.

She is a member of the Alpha Lambda chapter of Delta Sigma Theta sorority.

pads. "Oh yes, Flip-a-Frog will be back. And the racing pigs will be back by popular demand - and racing ducks. That was hilarious," Sam Rand, the State Fair manager, said Monday. Rand's office directs everything from a country store display to permits for French fry booths. He's also keeping an eye on the forecast, praying for fair weather, you might say, to bring in a hoped-for 600,000-plus visitors. Rand said 2,475 horses will be brought in for shows and competition at the Hunt Horse Arena, and there will also be dairy cattle, beef steers, sheep and goats raised by 4-Hers that will be judged in livestock shows. "This year we've got sponsors so that every kid is going to get something, even if he finishes in 15th place," Rand said. Corporate sponsors have put \$22,000 into a fund for the

livestock competition. This year, 31 agricultural commodity groups have promoted their wares in a "Country Store" set up in the Kerr Scott Building. A barber's chair, shoeshine stand, "feed store" complete with bags of seed corn and beans are set up inside, along with cooler-counters for dairy and meat products. Dick Tippett was hanging wreaths from Rasland Farms in Godwin, but said his wares would be for display only. Catalogs will give shoppers addresses for ordering the North Carolina products. James Strates Shows workers were unpacking and setting up the Merry Go Round and erecting the skeletons of roller coasters and Ferris Wheels. The aroma of Italian sausage and fried onions was on the breeze, but the tinny sounds of rock-and-roll music were drowned out by the noises of construction.

## Black Caucus Still 'Mad' At Bush Budget And 'Bad' Government

By Larry A. Still  
 Capitol News Service

WASHINGTON, D.C.-CNS-- Twenty of the 24 Democratic members of the Congressional Black Caucus continued to express their anger at the failure of President George Bush's administration to address employment, education, health and security issues for predominantly African American communities by joining their colleagues and many Republican colleagues in rejecting a critically short-sighted Budget Summit proposal.

With only 40 percent of Bush's own party voting with about 40 percent of mostly conservative Democrats in supporting increasing excise taxes for more defense and military funds while 'brazenly' calling for cuts in Medicare and other social welfare benefits, Rep. Ron Dellums (D-CA), CBC chairman, eloquently led the congressional rebellion among both parties in the original 254-179 vote to "block the deal" after several months of "negotiations" ended in a White House summit.

As the President vetoed the action and threatened to "shut down the government", Dellums declared "budget summitry...has reduced the (government) process to a small cadre of (elected) members who have further eroded collective Congressional responsibility....Millions of Americans are now being held hostage by their own government..."

Dellums not only asserted a leadership role in defeating the President's recommendation to

accept the original budget proposal last Friday (October 5), but the next day he urged the tense House of Representatives to hurry and deliver the necessary two-thirds vote to override the veto in the final minutes of a four hour debate, "so, I can get to my first born's wedding on time..." Sympathetic colleagues attempted to comply, but they lost narrowly, 232-168, when many members abstained as Rep. Kwesi Mfume (D-MD) presided in the closing moments of the historic, televised session.

Immediately following the first vote to defeat the objectionable compromise, CBC Executive Director Amelia Parker issued the following statement on behalf of the organization:

"The Congressional Black Caucus today attacked the Budget Summit Agreement as an 'unmitigated disaster' and assailed the process that will bring to the Congress a package to devastate programs for the elderly, minorities and the poor. Angered by elements of the proposal which benefit the wealthy while placing regressive taxes on middle and low income Americans, the Caucus raised vehement objections to 'concerted' efforts to circumvent the legislative process...Caucus members leveled a scathing attack on those who have abdicated their duties to the people of this nation by making a mockery of the national fiscal policy while savaging already decimated federal programs..."

In demanding the government take action to resolve the nation's greatest economic crisis in almost

## Sanford Urges Congress To Avoid Mistakes Of Budget Summit

WASHINGTON, DC — On Friday, Oct. 5, Senator Terry Sanford urged that Congress adopt a budget with honest deficit figures and reject deceitful practices the budget summit agreement would have allowed to continue.

"The problem with the budget summit agreement was that it turned its back, and would have turned the nation's back, on the national debt," Sanford said. "In five years it would have reduced deficits by \$500 billion but still left over \$1 trillion in deficits to add to the national debt."

"The President predicted Armageddon if we did not pass the budget summit agreement. But I believe the summit agreement was a ticket to Armageddon. It would have put us on a fast track to a \$5 trillion debt."

"When the President proposed a budget summit in May, I said that the most important thing we needed to put on the table was, in one word, honesty. By honesty I mean honesty about the debt. I mean honestly reporting the annual deficit so that Washington's attention will be properly focused on this nation's most grave problem: the mounting national debt. The budget that White House and Congressional leaders agreed to in the summit makes worse, not better, the nation's urgent debt problem."

Sanford advocates using deficit figures that more fully reflect how much the nation borrows, which is what raises the debt. "Whatever additional money the government borrows during the year — that's the deficit," Sanford said. His proposal is pending in Congress but was not part of the summit agreement between the White House and Congressional leaders.

The rest of Senator Sanford's statement follows: "Last fall the Senate voted to raise the debt limit beyond \$3 trillion for the first time. In two more years, even if we accepted the summit agreement, we would have to raise it to \$4 trillion. Two years after that, we'll need \$4.5 trillion, or worse. I do not believe the nation can survive that much debt."

"Our national debt is like a credit card bill that has grown larger than a consumer can bear. What does the consumer do? He or she makes a minimum payment. President Bush and the budget summiters presented Congress with a 5-year plan that would have paid only the minimum payment on the national debt."

"Anyone who has a credit card knows the minimum payment is only a stopgap measure. It quiets the lenders, momentarily. Interest fees on the old charges continue to mount. You have to stop charging new purchases to make any headway against the balance you owe. I know people who have torn up their credit cards because their deficit spending got out of hand."

"The essential problem with the budget agreement is that it was satisfied with a minimum payment — \$500 billion over 5 years — without any regard to how big the deficit grows. The budget summiters said, in effect, 'Don't worry about the debt. Don't worry about how big the deficit becomes. Don't worry about how high the debt piles.'

"But I cannot be a party to a budget that perpetuates dishonest and deceitful numbers that will hide, at a minimum, more than \$1 trillion in debt buildup."

"I cannot be a party to such deceit. I have been campaigning for three years to bring honesty to the federal budget process. The cornerstone of my proposal is full and open disclosure of the federal deficit, each and every year. Only by facing the debt, I believe, will we muster the resolve to get it under control."

"The American people are demanding that we come clean about the deficit and the debt."



DURHAM TEACHERS marched down Main Street Friday afternoon in a demonstration to emphasize the need for higher pay. (Photo by Mayfield)