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Jewish Leaders Reject Farrakhan's Latest Offer

By Darlene Superville
WASHINGTON (AP) - American Jewish leaders dismissed National Islamic Movement leader Louis Farrakhan's latest offer to reconcile as "an attempt to buy peace without any leaves." "It's an attempt to buy peace without any leaves," said Matthew Green, executive director of the American Jewish Coalition, a Washington-based group of Jewish organizations.
"We've seen no action whatsoever that indicates his seriousness in mending fences with the Jewish community," Brooks said.
In a lengthy interview broadcast on CBS's "60 Minutes," Farrakhan insisted he doesn't hate Jews. He said he was willing to talk to rabbis and to speak with Jewish scholars.
"I do not hate people because they are white," Farrakhan said. "I hate evil and injustice and exploitation, whether a black man or a white man does it. Whether a Jew, a Muslim or a Christian does it."
Farrakhan is willing to visit a synagogue and speak to the Jewish people because he does not want Jewish children to believe that they have somebody who comes into great power, puts them in ovens," Farrakhan referring to the mass killings during the Holocaust.
Farrakhan Foxman, national director of the New York-based Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, rejected Farrakhan's offer. "It's an attempt to buy peace without any leaves," Foxman said. "These are representatives of the Jewish people who have refused their request to soften his rhetoric and past, offensive statements, including comments that Jews are 'cockroaches.'" James Muhammad, editor of The Final Call, the Nation newspaper, said Farrakhan's offer "preconditions to a meeting of this nature." "These are conditions we are unwilling to accept," he said in an interview with Chicago. "If there is a sincere desire for dialogue, as it is with Louis Farrakhan, why not let him come to the table?"
Asked about his rhetoric in the interview, Farrakhan said, "I mean to tone down what I believe to be the truth. And if it's not the truth, if I am in error, how am I going to know that unless I have a dialogue." "These are abhorrent, hateful, conspiratorial statements of the Jewish community, that's not something to be talked about," responded Foxman.
Farrakhan was criticized sharply by U.S. officials this year for trips to "ungoverned" countries, including Libya, and visits with Libyan leader Muammar Gadhafi, among other activities.
The Treasury and Justice departments and members of Congress are looking into whether Farrakhan is violating federal laws during his travels.
Farrakhan was the focal point of national attention, he wants to put or remove good will, but that is apparently false that he cannot be trusted," said Phil Baum.

DCOABP to Honor Dr. John H. Lucas April 26

The Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People will honor John Harding Lucas at a banquet tribute on Friday, April 26, at 7 p.m. in the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company cafeteria.
A native of Rocky Mount, Lucas has devoted most of his life to educating youth. He began teaching at Adkins High School, Kinston, where he was also assistant principal, science teacher, guidance director, coordinator of Diversified Occupations, basketball and football coach.
Prior to assuming the principalship of Durham's Hillside High School in 1962, Lucas was principal at Orange Elementary School and Mary Potter High School, Oxford.



DR. J.H. LUCAS
Durham City Council, and received an honorary degree, Doctorate of Humane Letters, Shaw University, 1982; Wachovia's Principal of the Year, 1984; Principal Emeritus, Hillside High School, 1986-Present; 'Citizen of the Year,' Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, 1988; Distinguished Service Award, N.C. High School Athletic Association, 1991; Razor-Walker Award, UNC-Wilmington's Hall of Fame, 1993; and in 1992, the lobby of the NCAE Headquarters was named in his honor.

Lucas has served as president of the N.C. Association of Educators, Inc., president, Clean Community System of Durham City/County, Inc., member, Board of Directors, National Education Association; Board of Directors, Durham Business and Professional Chain; Executive Committee, The Merger Issue Task Force, Parliamentarian, N.C. Retired School Personnel; member, Durham City Schools Board of Education, member, Board of Directors, Operation Breakthrough; vice-chair, Durham Public Schools Board of Education.
For ticket information, contact Ms. Cora Cole-McFadden at 477-8995, Ms. Sandra Battle, 967-1000, or Ms. Deloris Rogers at 596-5538. Deadline for ticket sales is Tuesday, April 23.



MS. DORIS CAMPBELL receives her certificate at the induction ceremony and reception of Pi Alpha Alpha Honor Society from Dr. William G. Lewis and Dr. Patsy Perry, vice chancellor for Academic Affairs at NCCU. (NCCU Photo by Robert Lawson)

Bomb Scare Closes Riverside High School

(AP) - A four-page bomb threat taped to Riverside High School's front door closed the school and summoned the FBI and two bomb-sniffing dogs for an all-day search that proved fruitless.
The letter appeared on the school's front door between 6:30 a.m. Tuesday when the first staff arrived, and 7 a.m., when it was discovered, said Capt. R.D. Buchanan of the Durham County Sheriff's Department.
"The contents of the note are more than your average phoned-in bomb threat," Buchanan said. "It's a joke, it's a very bad joke."
The note appeared to be printed from a computer and was signed "Anonymous." Police withheld further information on the content.
Buchanan said investigators have found a possible motive, but he did not reveal it.
The nature of the threat is what prompted local authorities to call in the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Roberts said.

Capitol Hill Members Trade Racial Jabs Over Farrakhan

Charges of racism recently erupted among House members in response to a resolution condemning Louis Farrakhan's meetings with leaders of Libya, Iran and Iraq, threatening to tarnish Republicans' standing among blacks and divide Democrats. Supporters of the measure denounced Minister Farrakhan's trip as anti-American while Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) Chairman Donald Payne (D-NJ) condemned the resolution as "race-baiting." Payne claimed that sponsors of the resolution were being biased in whom they choose to denounce. "We never even issued a statement on David Duke," Payne said. "This whole thing smells like the political scene with Willie Horton." The measure, sponsored by Peter King (R-NY) and Tom Lantos (D-Calif.), has increased racial tension just before the House considers the issue of repealing affirmative action in federal programs. Reps. J.C. Watts (R-Okla.) and Gary Franks (R-Conn.), both African Americans from mostly white districts, were among the resolution's 53 co-sponsors. Rep. Cynthia McKinney (D-Ga.) warned against "Farrakhan bashing" and the press secretary for Ron Dellums (D-Calif.) charged King and Lantos with overstepping their bounds as congressmen.

Watts Wants States to Control Federal Dollars

Rep. J.C. Watts (Okla.), the nation's most popular Black Republican Congress member, wants to help inner city communities with an array of education vouchers, community renewal zones and tax credits for faith-based service providers. He has teamed up with Rep. James Talent (R-Mo.) to search for solutions to the nation's urban ills. "The Great City programs started by President Johnson were well-intentioned, but have failed to help people in the inner city," Watts said. "Our legislation is designed to empower communities and individuals so people can solve their own problems." The legislation focuses on three broad themes: moral and family renewal, personal economic empowerment and fostering private charity. The programs include: The Personal Economic Empowerment Act of 1996, The Family and Moral Renewal Act of 1996 and The Faith Based Service Provider Empowerment Act of 1996.

NAACP Image Awards

"Waiting to Exhale" was a huge hit at the NAACP Image Awards taking home seven honors including outstanding film of 1995; best actress for Angela Bassett and outstanding supporting actress for Loretta Devine. The film's platinum album won for soundtrack album and Whitney Houston was named best female recording artist for her performance of a song from the movie. Denzel Washington won outstanding actor for "Crimson Tide," and Laurence Fishburne best supporting actor for "Higher Learning."

Police Gain in Weaponry, Not Diversity

Today's police officers are better educated, armed with more sophisticated weapons and more likely to be wearing body armor, a Justice Department report says. But they are only slightly more likely to be black, Hispanic or female than they were a few years ago. In 1993, blacks accounted for 11.3 percent of the 373,550 full-time sworn officers in city and county law-enforcement agencies, compared with 10.5 percent in 1990 and 9.3 percent in 1987. In 1993, Hispanic accounted for 6.2 percent and women 8.8 percent of officers.

Real Aunt Jemima Honored by Hometown

According to the Philadelphia Tribune, Rosie Lee Moore smiled at America for 17 years, but few Americans knew her name. Now, 30 years after her death her hometown of Hearne, Tex., is producing a brochure to honor the woman most known only as Aunt Jemima. The Hearne native represented the Quaker Oats Co. as Aunt Jemima from 1950 until she died in 1967. She spent her adult life in Oklahoma City. Her picture stayed on the products for about 10 years after her death. The Hearne Chamber of Commerce reports it is a developing a brochure to explain Ms. Moore's history and a map to her gravesite.

Fort Bragg Soldiers Inspected for Racist Tattoos

FORT BRAGG (AP) - Racism is more than skin-deep, but military officials at Fort Bragg think the truth could be in the tattoo.
Base commanders are inspecting 82nd Airborne Division soldiers for racist and gang-related tattoos. Soldiers found to have offensive markings will be counseled, officials said.
The inspections began two weeks ago and are to be completed by Friday. All division soldiers will be inspected quarterly.
If commanders determine "during counseling that the soldier does affiliate with or espouses beliefs associated with racist, extremist or gang-related tattoos or symbols, further action may be taken," according to a military statement.
The inspections are being made following reports that some soldiers who were identified as skinheads during an investigation by 82nd Airborne officials had swastika, SS and Adolf Hitler tattoos.
The 82nd began investigating skinhead and racist

activity following the arrest of two soldiers in a murder case. Police say the two - James Burmeister and Malcolm Wright - were skinheads who killed two blacks in downtown Fayetteville for racist motives.
Division officials say the inspections are legal and responsible.
"By and large, most of them are taking it in stride," said Capt. Mark Wiggins, an 82nd spokesman. "They understand it's their responsibility and reasonable." Wiggins said he is aware that some soldiers have complained about the inspections. But he said regulations long have required recruits to be inspected for "tattoos that may affect their ability to serve." "It is not a witch hunt. It is an inspection," Wiggins said.
Wiggins said commanders are being provided with a book compiled by the Army's Criminal Investigation Command and Equal Opportunity office to help them identify tattoos that might not be well-known but have meaning to extremists.