

THE TRIBUNAL AID

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**A VIABLE, VALID REQUIREMENT
RESPONDING TO
BLACK NORTH CAROLINA**

The 1976 Editions of THE TRIBUNAL AID will be dedicated to America's bicentennial Celebration, with emphasis on contributions our Race has made in the making of America, from birth to the present.
In 1976 there should not be a need to lift these contributions from isolated sources. Our past
Faye Ashe, Black History Editor

should be interwoven into the fabric of our civilization, because we are, except for the Indian, America's oldest ethnic minority.

We have helped make America what it was, and what it is, since the founding of Virginia. We have been a factor in many major issues in our history. There have been many misdeeds

against us, yet we have been able to live through them and fight back. This is living proof of our history.

Our role in the making of America is neither well known or correctly known. Many positive contributions have escaped historians and have not found their way into the pages of many history books.

We will strive to give readers, Black and white, many little-known facts about our past and it is hoped that a proper perspective of our history will be of value to persons who may believe that as Black people we have an unworthy past; and hence, no strong claims to all rights of other Americans.

Historical Landmarks Of Black America by Fay Ashe

No more substantial testimony to the role of the Black in the growth and development of America can be found than the numerous historical landmarks in various regions of the country which are associated with Black Americana. Many of these—like the Alamo and Bunker Hill—are not conventionally known as sites involving chapters of Negro history.

1844 California 1847 Rochester, N. Y.

Jim Beckworth discovers a pass through the Sierra Nevadas to California and the Pacific Ocean.

Frederick Douglass publishes the first issue of his abolitionist newspaper, The North Star.

1845 Worcester, Mass. 1848 Buffalo

Macon B. Allen becomes the first Negro formally admitted to the bar in the United States.

The convention of the Free Soil Party is attended by a number of Negro abolitionists.

1846 New York 1849 Maryland

Abolitionist Gerrit Smith's plan to parcel up thousands of acres of his land in New York fails to attract prospective Negro farmers. Lack of capital among Negroes and the infertility of the land itself combine to doom the project.

Harriet Tubman soon to be a conductor on the "Underground Railroad," escapes from slavery in Maryland. (Miss Tubman later returns to the South so less than 19 times, and helps transport more than 300 slaves to freedom.)

1847 St. Louis, Missouri 1849 Boston

Dred Scott first files suit for his freedom in the Circuit Court of St. Louis.

Benjamin Roberts files the first school integration suit on behalf of his daughter. The Massachusetts Supreme Court rejects the suit, and establishes a "separate but equal" precedent.

Dred Scott first files suit for his freedom in the Circuit Court of St. Louis.

BICENTENNIAL BLACK HISTORY "Lost-Strayed-Or Stolen"

by Fay Ashe

Black history in the Western Hemisphere most probably begins with the discovery of the New World by Christopher Columbus in 1492. Blacks are known to have participated meaningfully in a number of later explorations made by Europeans in various parts of the United States and Spanish America. Facts such as these at once fashion a new dimension for Black history within the mainstream of American history. Inasmuch as one of the primary purposes of this feature is to record some historical achievements of the Black, it becomes most important to offer the reader chronological accounts through which he can conveniently familiarize himself with the broad sweep of American Black history. The years covered here are 1492-1954.

Osawatimie: John Brown Memorial State Park

This state park, named in honor of the fiery insurrectionist, contains the cabin in which he lived during his brief sojourn in Kansas.

LOUISIANA

Baton Rouge:

Southern University

Wallace: Fort Wallace

Only a roadside marker and a cemetery are left as identifying marks of Fort Wallace, another of the military outposts used by the 10th Cavalry after having refused a regiment of Negro troopers changed his attitude in the field when Negro soldiers whom he fought alongside proved their mettle in battle against the Cheyenne. The black cavalrymen

marched 230 miles in nine days, and killed 10 Cheyenne who had surrounded the escort party which was taking the major to his new regiment.

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A New Power On Capitol Hill

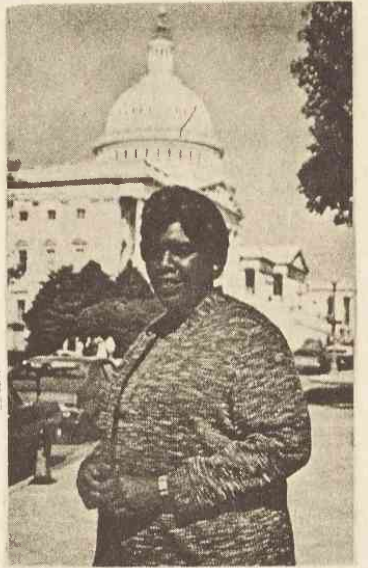
In 1972 when BARBARA JORDAN was elected to the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES by voters of the Eighteenth Congressional District in Texas, she became the first Black Congresswoman to come from the deep South. Before that, she had been an articulate and assertive member of the Texas state senate since 1966. She first attracted national attention when President Lyndon B. Johnson, ignoring more prominent civil rights leaders, invited her to the White House for a private preview of his 1967 civil rights message. Impressed by her social reform legislation, President Johnson praised Miss Jordan as "the epitome of new politics" in the United States. "She proved that Black is beautiful before we knew what it meant".

nedy and his running mate Lyndon B. Johnson.

Barbara Jordan first ran for public office in 1962. In a losing bid for a seat in the Texas House of Representatives, she gathered a respectable 46,000 votes and ran for the same seat in 1964. In an interview for Ebony magazine (October 1972) Miss Jordan said "I figured anybody who could get 46,000 people to vote for them for any office should keep on trying". Defeated for a second time, she turned her attention to the Texas Senate and in 1966 defeated former state representative J.C. Whitefield, a white liberal, to become the first Black woman elected to the State Senate. "I didn't play up the fact of being a Negro or a woman," she said of her first political victory. "It feels

by federal minimum wage standards, "THE REALLY POOR PEOPLE, LAUNDRY WORKERS, DOMESTICS (and) Farm workers". Angered by discriminatory hiring practices of the state, she forced the government to include antidiscrimination clauses in its business contracts. With her advice and support, the State created a special department of Community Affairs to deal with problems of Texas' burgeoning Urban areas. To insure the participation of minority groups in the electoral process, she prevented the passage of a restrictive voter registration act.

During her two terms in the State Senate, Miss Jordan chaired several committees, including the labor and management Relation Committee and her impressive record on that committee won her considerable political support from organized labor. During her first year in office Miss Jordan was named the outstanding freshman Senator and was chosen Senate President Pro-tempore in March 1972. On June 10, 1972, as the State's traditional "governor for a day", she became the first Black Chief executive in the Country. Some political observers and critics belittled Miss Jordan's brief gubernatorial term as a "publicity stunt". Unperturbed, she told reporters following the official swearing-in ceremony, "Someday, I may want to retain the governor's seat for a longer period of time."



BARBARA C. JORDAN

THE FIRST BLACK TO ADDRESS A DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION AS A KEYNOTE SPEAKER

1971) "I've pushed a good deal of important legislation through the State Senate. I'll run on my record".

With her 80 percent of the total votes cast in the May 1972 Primary contest, Miss Jordan soundly defeated the three male contenders for the nomination. "If I got 80 percent of the votes, lots of white people voted for me", she said shortly after her victory, "and it was because they felt their interest would be included".

On the House Floor, Barbara Jordan consistently backed legislation to raise the standards of living of

On the House Floor, Barbara Jordan consistently backed legislation to raise the standard of living of impoverished Americans, she approved the continuation of the programs of the Office of Economic Opportunity, the establishment of an independent Public Corporation to provide free legal services to the poor, and the creation of a powerful Consumer Protection Agency.

As a member of the House Judiciary Committee, Miss Jordan was one of thirty-eight Congressmen charged with the task of examining and evaluating the evidence bearing on the possible impeachment of President Richard M. Nixon. The Freshman legislator, whom CBS News Correspondent BRUCE MORTON once called "the best mind on the committee", subscribed to a broad definition of impeachable offenses that included "neglect of duty" and "subversion of the system of government". She viewed the Watergate Affair as a "cleansing experience" for the political process.

On Monday night July 12, 1976 Barbara Jordan generated the first real excitement of the Democratic Convention. She is the first Black woman ever to keynote a major political convention. In opening her keynote address, Barbara Jordan said, "I am a Keynote Speaker". Since the first Democratic Convention in 1832, she said, "it would have been most unusual for any political party to have asked a BARBARA JORDAN to make a Keynote address, most unusual". "The past notwithstanding, a BARBARA JORDAN is before you tonight". She said "This is one additional bit of evidence that the American dream need not forever be deferred".

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Parents of Miss Jordan, the Rev. and Mrs. Benjamin M. Jordan, are applauded in Texas State Capitol on day their daughter was appointed "Governor for a Day." Shortly after photo was taken, Rev. Jordan became ill; he died within a few hours.

BARBARA CHARLINE JORDAN was born on February 21, 1936 in Houston, Texas, she is the youngest of three daughters of Benjamin M. and Arlyne Jordan. Miss Jordan's father was a Baptist Minister who supplemented his income by working as a warehouse clerk. She has said that they were poor, but so was everyone around them, so they just didn't notice it. She attended Houston public schools. Her father a strict disciplinarian, reprimanded her whenever she deviated from her straight "A" average, and Miss Jordan set equally high standards for herself. "I always wanted to be something unusual", "I never wanted to be run-of-the-mill". After hearing an address by Edith Sampson, a Black lawyer from Chicago, at the Phyllis Wheatly High School "Career Day" assembly, Barbara Jordan decided to become a lawyer.

When Barbara graduated from Phyllis Wheatly High School in 1952, she was ranked in the top five percent of her class. She enrolled at Texas Southern University, an all-Black college in Houston, where she majored in political science and history. She ran unsuccessfully for president of the freshman class. Barbara was and remains a spell-binding orator, she led the debating team of Texas Southern to a series of championships.

In 1956 she obtained her B.A. degree, magna cum laude. She earned an L.L.B. degree at Boston University in 1959 and later that year was admitted to the bar in both Massachusetts and Texas. In her home town of Houston, Miss Jordan began to practice general civil law from the dining room table in her parents home, which served as her desk. Three years later, she managed to open an office of her own. In addition to engaging in private practice, she worked as an administrative assistant to a county judge in Harris County, Texas. Miss Jordan was convinced of the effectiveness of legitimate political change, and she became active in the county's Democratic party organization. "All Blacks are militants in their guts", she explained, as quoted in TIME (May 22, 1972), "but militancy is expressed in different ways".

During the 1960 presidential campaign, she directed Houston's first Black "one person-per block" precinct drive to get support for Democratic nominee John F. Ken-

good to know that people recognize a qualified candidate when they see one". Miss Jordan ran unopposed in 1968 and was reelected to a four-year term. She was so effective as a state legislator that she saw about half of the bills she submitted for consideration enacted into law. Among the legislation credited to her efforts were: a law establishing the Texas Fair Practices Commission, an improved workmen's compensation act, and the State's first minimum wage law designed specifically to include workers not covered



In Houston Astrodome, Miss Jordan waves to crowd during football game between her alma mater, Texas Southern Univ., and Grambling College of Louisiana.

1776 Honoring America's Bicentennial 1976