

PORTLAND OBSERVER

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A Black Owned Publication

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ALFRED LEE HENDERSON, Publisher and Editor

Faces problems

The call for equality is now everywhere, especially in America from the mouths of Blacks wanting to be recognized. They are fighting for what has long been denied them—respect. How long they will be fighting is anyone's guess, but without doubt, they will continue until freedom rings free of the hard ship and burden that he now experiences here in America.

Throughout most Black ghettos is the cry of police brutality, it has brought about some attention from the local government and retaliation from Black communities in every section of the country and even broaden that attention. To an extent, police officers think twice before they answer to a Black plaintiff's request for in some ways and hurt it in another. It has helped because it may eliminate police from going to far because of race. It may hurt because they can't get immediate consideration for Black criminals who mean to do them harm.

What would be the answer to such dilemma? To put more black police on the force would quiten the cries of police brutality from the black ghettos of America.

Young Blacks would almost rather be anything other than a policeman. I think that most persons would find dignity in becoming a Law Enforcement Officer.

There are only a hand full of Black Officers in Portland but even with the hand full they just don't get rated higher than a sergeant. There is very little promotion. At the rate things are going now in the near future there won't be anything but white police enforcing the law even in Black neighbors which will produce even more cries of like I witness in Watts.

Until the Black man somehow works his way into the police on non-discriminatory basis and an adequate number of them, Portland will always be a city who refuse to face its' problems.

When this country took Japan, she still let the Japanese people. The same of Germany—she let the German police control the Germans. No one knows how to deal with a race of people better than a member of that race. It would be beautiful to see a Black and white together on patrols throughout the city of Portland. Doing the proper things now could save our city from many problems and make our city a model for the country.

A continuation of the past cannot an must not be the pattern. Portland must change with the time; not only in employment, education, better housing but in everything that better all of its citizens. There must be new motives, new ideas and a new future if this city or the nation is to move forward. The law must be justified for all people.

Portland has got to get pregnant with more Black policemen and more Blacks throughout the whole structural system.

Racial upheavals

The racial upheavals do not end at home here in the U.S. Apparently the Black G.I.s are plagued with much the same trouble. The trouble has become such a nuisance to the Pentagon, that a team of military and civilian experts will be dispatched to West Germany to investigate the happenings.

There will be a review of race relations in all the services, but the priority target will be the 165,000-man Seventh Army. We do not know whether there is more trouble in the Seventh or if it's because it is the Seventh, that is the U.S. main ground force contribution to NATO's European shield. At any rate the image of the Seventh has been shattered during the past six months.

There have been aggravated, sometimes bloody, fistics in the barracks between blacks and whites. There have been at least three riots sparked off in an Army stockade at Mannheim,

because of friction between black prisoners and white guards.

Black soldiers are seen giving the upraised fist salute to their brothers, knowing that it means court-martial if reported.

The trouble in the Seventh is by no means all caused by the blacks, who account for about 12% of the U.S. troops in West Germany. The Black soldiers complain they are harassed by white MP's and caustic NCO's.

All of these actions, and more, have caused the Pentagon to do something about the situation. The Stars and Stripes reporters have been ordered to play down any disturbances.

Seventh Army headquarters at Heidelberg has set up an Equal Opportunities Discussion Group to study the problem and suggest possible solutions. The dissensions have become so devastating that the ranking officers will, most likely, be grateful for any apparent solution.

OBSERVER Publisher's TV Appearance



ALFRED LEE HENDERSON
By Helen Hendrix

Alfred L. Henderson, Publisher and editor of the Portland Observer has been invited to appear on the Oregon Week in Review television program Friday March 26, 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on channel KATU News and then a repeat 6:00 p.m. the following Sunday.

He will appear with well known reporters such as Jerry Tippens, and Mort Spence of the Oregon Journal, Doug Seymour of the Oregonian, and Bruce Bear of KATU News.

Mort Spence is one who always reports straight from the shoulders specializes in Metropolitan Portland report and the Albina Community has always had good coverage from him. Tippens is the program's generalist, presenting a kind of "Oregon-at-large" reports, while Seymour and Bruce Bear handle the legislative and state governments agencies.

Henderson is the people reporter representing a voice for all people owning a black paper but reporting the news for all citizens of Portland.

Child Day Care

Hughes Memorial Day Care Center is now open and needs only a few more children to meet their capacity of 30 children.

The new day care center is part of the Model Cities comprehensive Child Care Services.

The Metropolitan Community Coordinated Council as sub contracted with Berean Day Care Center to act as the operating agency.

Children from 3 to 6 years of age are eligible

Fees are based on the families income and financial obligations.

Families in the Model Cities area who need day care and other related services may inquire at Model-Cities 4-C Point of Information and Referral located at 714 1/2 N. E. Alberta Street.

Social workers, nurses, Home Economist, Child Development Specialist and Home Makers will be available to the families of children in the Day Care Centers.

Day or Night Care is for children below age 3, school age children 5 to 9, and handicapped children..

Child care, in the Day and Night Program, is provided in private homes during working hours of parents.

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