

Farrakhan rhetoric hurts Jackson camp

by Lanita Duke

GRASSROOT NEWS, N.W. — In the eyes of many, the foot in Jesse Jackson's mouth is Minister Louis Farrakhan, national spokesman for the Nation of Islam.

When the rainbow coalition formed last year, Farrakhan urged his members to vote. His presence in the political process was hailed as a sign of unity within Black America's progressive and nationalistic communities.

But Farrakhan's extreme nationalist rhetoric had been blown out of proportion by the national

media and the Jackson/Farrakhan union has ended in a bitter divorce.

Instead of concentrating on Jackson's extraordinary diplomacy, Farrakhan's latest radio broadcast was quickly converted into headlines.

"There can be no peace ... using the name of God to shield your gutter religion."

On the Cable News Network's Freeman Reports, he denied that he said the word "gutter".

Farrakhan: "I said dirty and I did not say Judaism."

Freeman: "You said Israel."

Farrakhan: "Israel is not Judaism

...there is a difference between persons who call themselves Jews and persons who live the life that was taught by Moses."

Farrakhan references drew sharp condemnation from an Administration already loaded to fire on Jesse Jackson. Also, some Black political leaders attacked Farrakhan's broadcast. Representatives Charles Rangel, (D-NY), Louis Stokes, (D-Ohio); Mickey Leland, (D-Tx); William Gray, (D-Pa); and Alan Wheat, (D-Mo) released a joint press statement.

"...The scurrilous statements about Israel and Judaism by Farrakhan are abhorrent and should be both resented and rejected by all persons of goodwill."

Farrakhan said he was used by a media conspiracy that brought up the language of the Nation of Islam to kill Jackson's budding rainbow coalition. "They always throw the stone, hide their hand and then blame the victim."

Last week, Jackson disassociated his campaign from Farrakhan statements, but the double standard of justice in America said it was not enough.

Farrakhan said, "I don't care if the whole world repudiates me.

That does not mean what I say is incorrect. Why didn't the Congress repudiate the CIA for their illegal mining in Nicaragua, nor did they repudiate the F.B.I. for killing Black leaders and destroying the Black liberation movement of the 1960's. Their condemnation of me does not make me wrong."

Farrakhan continuously stated that he was not anti-semitic. "I have no hatred or animosity towards Jews. I have hatred and animosity toward exploitation, slavery, colonialization and mind manipulation. If I see it in a Jew, I have the right to condemn it without having to be called anti-semitic."

Whatever appeal Farrakhan's views might have, they were dampened when he warned America, "God is angry. The time of the fulfillment of the prophet's prediction is now. America is heading for the heat of the Third World War which is Armageddon."

Black political observers feel Farrakhan's impact on Jackson's campaign has been a negative one. The mistake he made was to disseminate his beliefs, outside the mosque, to the general public whose press blew it out of proportion and dimmed the rainbow coalition.

Petett leaves Urban League

Donny Adair, chairman of the Portland Urban League Board of Directors, announced the resignation of Freddie Webb-Petett, president of the Urban League of Portland, effective December 28th.

Petett, 40, who came to the Portland Branch from Mayor Neil Goldschmidt's office in 1979, said she wants to take the next year to do some free-lance consulting and assess her future. Petett was an aide to Goldschmidt when she was named to succeed James O. Brooks as head of the Portland League.

Although Petett plans to give more time to her personal wants, she won't be lacking for activity. Last year, she received a grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation's national Fellowship program. The

three-year grant of up to \$35,000 provides for independent study and thus far has taken Petett to Mexico, New York, Minneapolis, and throughout the Pacific Northwest.

Over the next two years, her study of telecommunications and international cultures will take her to Europe, Africa, and Asia.

A search committee headed by Linda Rasmussen, chairperson of the league's personnel committee, will interview candidates for Petett's position. In addition to Rasmussen, who is head of the Communication Workers of America, members of the committee are Skip Collier, Professional Training Systems; Bill Hilliard, *The Oregonian*; Chuck Long, U.S. Bancorp; Irwin Starr, KGW-TV; and Thane Tienson, Mitchell, Lang & Smith.

Tina Turner concert picketed

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on July 14th at the Northwest Service Center.

For more information, call 230-9427.

Note: Several of those present at the Tina Turner picket mentioned a promotional ticket giveaway by KGW radio. KGW program director Bill Minckler said the station gave away about 30 pair of tickets in the week before the concert. He thought it was "absolutely ludicrous" to suggest that the giveaway in any way condoned Turner's appearances in South Africa. He said he first became aware of the boycott when he went to the concert Monday night. "We don't politically orient ourselves in a concert promotion," he said. "Negative or positive, it doesn't say

a thing about Tina Turner's performing in South Africa." Asked if KGW would follow KBOO in refusing to play the recordings of those on the boycott list, Minckler said, "No."

Police powers

(Continued from Page 1, Column 6)

panding the powers of the police unnecessarily.

Houze expects the county to be subject to lawsuits charging officers with illegal behavior following passage of the ordinance. "If we just look at common sense and human nature," he said, "you're going to give people (police officers) the green flag, you're going to say 'go get 'em.'"

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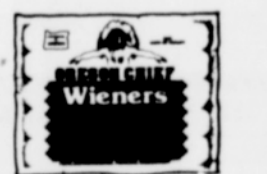
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