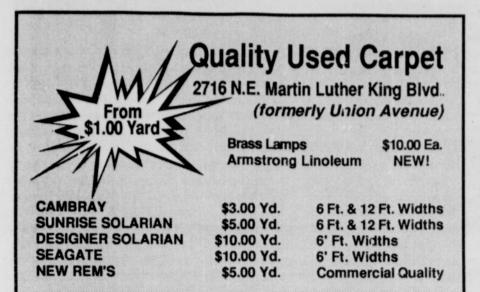


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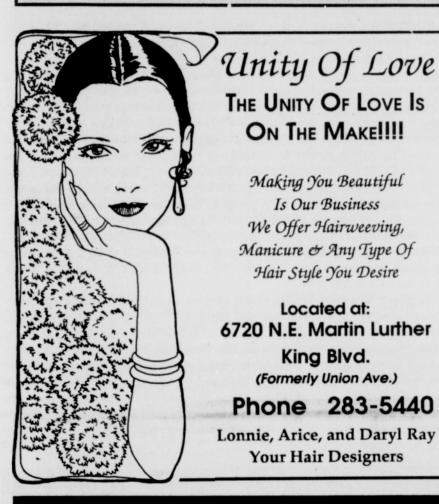
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# Blacks And The 1990 Census

The importance to the Black community of an accurate census cannot be underestimated. Billions in government funds are based on census data which is also used to apportion representation, and to draw boundaries for Congressional, state and local election districts. The figures gathered can also become the foundation for affirmative action programs and anti-discrimination lawsuits.

The 1980 Census neglected to include up to 6.5 percent of the Black population, three or four times the figure for the nation as a whole. Although Blacks are less than 12 percent of the population, they comprised more than 50% of the people missed in the last census.

Among reasons given for some Blacks not being accurately counted, were fear by families that landlords would discover illegally shared apartments; general distrust of government; and, the increasing number of homeless. In addition, census takers feared canvassing in areas they perceived as "dangerous."

Dr. Martin Hochbaum, director of AJCongress' Commission on National Affairs, and project supervisor of Forum: The black-Jewish Awareness Project, contends that in 1990, the count of Blacks could again be inaccurate, and therefore blacks will have less of a voice in government, and will receive fewer public services and programs. An accurate count will lead to more appropriate allocations and reduce tensions between disadvantaged groups vying for

### Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition

played

White Gallery

lens of a camera."

Portland State University

Mon.-Sat. 7 a.m-10 p.m.

2nd Floor - Smith Memorial Union

Saturday Closing 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

photographer Del Niemi has recorded China

and her people from a distance that results

in a voyeuristic point of view. Using his

varied background, (from parasitologist to

aircraft mechanic) Niemi tries to show the

common threads of humanity that all people

share, while still retaining the individuality

of his subjects. Niemi summarizes "I merely

attempted to understand China through the

Using a 210mm lens, with Tri-X film,

Littman Gallery **Portland State University** 2nd Floor - Smith Memorial Union Mon.-Fri. 12:00 Noon-4 p.m.

Thurs. 12:00 Noon-7 p.m. Extraordinary photographs of vanishing, mud-style architecture are on display in the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition, "Spectacular Vernacular: Traditional Desert Architecture".

Over 150 black and white photographs, researched by architectural historian, Jean Louis Bourgeois and photographed by Carollee Pelos, ranging from wind-catchers in Pakistan, Muslim shrine in Afghanistan, to Mosques in Mali, West Africa.

China And Her People Photos Dis-

the same limited funds.

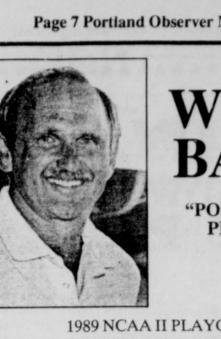
The AJCongress advocates a multi-faceted approach towards achieving a more accurate count. The plan includes endorsement of the Federal Decennial Census Improvement Act which would require the Census Bureau to select the most appropriate method to correct undercounting.

It also involves aggressive locally-based outreach programs to educate people to the importance of the census and the effect it could have on them personally. Through its regional offices, AJCongress is bringing together civic and ethnic leadership in an effort to encourage participation in the 1990 Census.

Dr. Hochbaum believes the "AJCongress" efforts will help to rectify the problem of minority undercount and help improve intergroup relations, as well as have an impact on the distribution of political power and public funds into the next century."

He expressed his belief that the American public must be made aware of the importance of participating in next spring's Census so that appropriate steps can be taken "to overcome the undercount."

The American Jewish Congress was founded in 1918 as a democratic membership organization dedicated to the creative survival of the Jewish people. Its mission is to enlist American Jews in the struggle to safeguard and enlarge democratic pluralism and constitutional protection for all Americans. Toward this end, AJCongress engages in political advocacy in local, national and international forums.



#### Page 7 Portland Observer NOVEMBER 16, 1989



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