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Hawaii Update: Who Pushed The Fast Forward Button On History

By Professor McKinley Burt

While the media seeks to keep our attention riveted upon Russia and Eastern Europe—and upon ephemeral Peace Dividends which will surely turn out to be as bankrupt as trickle down promises of the past—perhaps we should focus our attention on last week's economic model, "Hawaii...Parking Lot." This historic 'learning machine' has serious implications for our own North-east Portland.

properties in many American cities. We ask, who is waiting in the wings for the right, 'cheap', disillusioned moment?

What banks, savings and loans, or California and Japanese investors, of pension fund planners, or politicians seeking a payoff in campaign contributions?

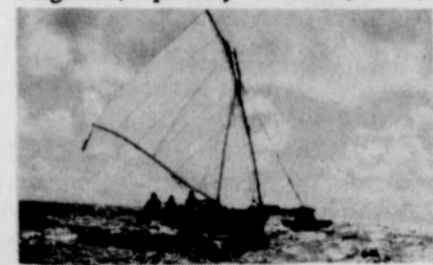


It is a given that many "downtown" do not want Union Avenue to gain a new name (and direction) around which community leaders and neighborhood residents could focus Black (and white) efforts to create economic development for "their own local benefit," largesse for the peons, no less. But, then let us look again at those Pacific Islands.

Right now, thousands of miles west of Albina, there is an ongoing and vicious corporate struggle to further exploit and decimate lands of the indigenous Hawaiians. The Rain Forest vs. Geothermal Electrification confrontation on the island Palau-site of the famed Kilauea Volcano—is over the plan to destroy the ancient Wao Kele Puna forest. There is no difference at all between this scheme and similar European- and U.S.-sponsored projects being launched throughout the world in those lands still occupied by peoples of African descent. The Hawaiian fiasco has already resulted in the 'transfer' of 27,000 acres of the people's valuable inheritance to a privately-held corporation, in exchange for 25,000 acres of 'volcano-devastated lavaslopes.' There is a similar electrical generation scam in progress in the South Sea Island of 'Palau', a U.S. Trust Territory.

For years at Portland State University, no one could distinguish between my Black students from 'Palau', Samoa, Tahiti, Fiji, etc., and the African Americans (except as white University staff and local chapters of International Friendship Organizations diverted the former to westside housing and fraternization). It would take an anthropologist or phenotypist to perceive that which Dr. W.E.B. Dubois documented 70 years ago, that you were looking at one and the same replication of the prehistorical African diaspora that spread out all over the Pacific Rim, so-called Middle East, The Americas, and over to India. Even the racist linguists recently have had to abandon their white-centered "Indo-European Language Thesis", and

in the face of overwhelming evidence have had to retreat to a "southerly origin" of European languages-to parallel the development there of all the rest of mankind's culture and technology, from mathematics to agriculture (a well-rounded idiot could have told them that). See related articles in the past year's issues of Scientific American Magazine; especially the latest (March).



At this moment I am watching a video tape mailed to me by a former student who is back home in Palau. I wish to compare it with a documentary on that situation which was aired last year on Public Station KOAP; for rather obvious reasons, and before providing more details in next week's final "Parking Lot" monograph in this series of Black History Month Specials. Do you get the same feelings from this series that others have remarked upon? Marshall McLuhan's "Global Village" may be closer at hand than we think. We must consider the demographics and world resource analyses available in the computerized data banks at the international banks and investment houses based in Europe and America, and at the U.S. 'Think Tanks' financed by our government. And don't leave out South Africa, whom the F.B.I. discovered to be the hidden owner of several Southern Cotton plantations where Black sharecroppers were freed from a new slavery as late as the 1940s. What do they own in Northeast Portland?

Meanwhile back on the island of Hawaii, I didn't mention that the 'Parker' cattle ranch there is the largest in the world, 225,000 acres, 400 horses, 276 paddocks, 347 miles of pipelines, 9 reservoirs, 162 water tanks, 437 water troughs, and three dams-for openers. A standard corporate brochure will tell you of a 'John Palmer Parker I', "a white seafarer from Newton, Massachusetts who settled down to raise a herd of 'Wild' cattle he rounded up." The truth of the matter is the first cattle on the island were a bull and five cows given to Black King Kamehameha by explorer Capt. George Vancouver in 1793. We already have lanced of the naivete of this ruler, and by some manipulation, John Parker, the penniless adventurer, "acquired both the King's wife and his cattle." Espanolas (cowboys) were brought in from Mexico and Spain, and today their descendants trade at the company store, live in company housing, and if they are "industrious, are given ten pounds of beef every month."

"The pictures here feature the navigation modes of those who peopled the Pacific Islands and the Americas as early as 8000 years ago."

SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE

High school students who are interested in applying for \$1,000 college scholarships should request applications by March 16, 1990 for Educational Communications Scholarship Foundation, 721 N. McKinley Road, Lake Forest, Illinois 60045. To receive an application, students should send a note stating their name, address, city, state and zip code, approximate grade point average and year of graduation. Sixty-five winners will be selected on the basis of academic performance, involvement in extra-curricular activities and need for financial aid.

White Women: Attraction or Distraction

by Ulysses Tucker, Jr.

The first time that I was approached by a white woman for a date in college totally shocked me. A junior at the University of Portland at the time, the incident caused me great confusion and stress.

As a high school student in Washington, D.C., dating White women was never an issue because there were none around. All of the cheerleaders, band members, school clubs, sports teams, and people in my community were black. There were nothing but black women all around me.

Like many inner-city youngsters, I was active sexually at an early age and fortunately, I did not become a teen parent like most of my friends. Ultimately, this gave me greater mobility after high school and for more options or less responsibilities than my peers. Many of my friends dropped out of high school to take low paying jobs or turned to the quick money life of the streets. I went to junior college.

Nebraska was a rude awakening for me considering my promiscuous city lifestyle. It was a total culture shock to say the least. I went from having my choice of women in the neighborhood to being culturally isolated as a college athlete in a rural environment. It was tough emotionally, psychologically, socially and sexually because I equated my manhood with my sexuality. We were "taboo" or bad news to the white female students. Many of them had never seen a black man and they feared the damage an encounter with one of the six brothers would cause to their small town reputation. So, they kept their distance.

Learning to do without sexual intercourse was a real character builder for me, but that would have never happened had it not been for the rejection by white women in Nebraska. It also gave me a greater appreciation for black women and believe me, trips home at Christmas and summer break were more than welcomed.

Lastly, I became a better student in Nebraska, more reflective, and a deeper thinker. There was nothing else to do except study and play basketball. I felt like the biblical legend Lott when I departed for Oregon from Nebraska.

Portland was different compared to race relations in Nebraska and Washington, D.C. Interracial dating and marriages are very common. I was actually surprised when I came here thirteen years ago, the first, at how open people were about it and how it was just a natural part of the lifestyle. There use to be a time, according to Eldridge Cleaver (Soul on Ice), where the white woman was the "sign of the hanging tree and the burning cross..." Now, brothers, to a great degree, free to date white women without any threat or fear of danger. Like Nebraska, I again had to make emotional and psychological adjustments.

What is the attraction? Some black men say that it's about money, that white women are more submissive, and put less pressure on them than black women. Other black men, especially those who grew up in culturally isolated environments always fantasized about dating white women, but never had the opportunity or feared the social repercussions. Many of these brothers had never considered dating white women until they arrived to Oregon. She was the forbidden fruit in their old neighborhood or community. Myself included.

Then there is the Wilt Chamberlain excuse of old. The excuse states that black men who exist on certain economic levels meet more white women than they do blacks in the business/socialization process. When you look at the American standards of beauty on television commercials, all you see are blond and blue-eyed women, white women, or very light complexion blacks (a whole another issue—check out the new *Ebony Magazine*). Some brothers chase the illusion.

Before you jump to any conclusion, let me confirm that I am not advocating against interracial marriages. Some of my best friends exist in this capacity. All I'm asking for you to do is check your reasons or motives for wanting to interact with the white woman. Should a black man date a black woman for the sake of dating a black woman? Should race even be an issue? Is it real love, curiosity, just a stage you are going through, or are you just killing time until you meet a sister like one black man mentioned? Actually, it is a personal choice and no one's business who you might decide to date.

However, when you consider that black men are 43% of the prison population, and that 98% of all blacks killed last year were by other blacks (most males), and consider that we lost a generation of black males to the 1960s/Vietnam or reflect on the current one to crack/drug-related violence, or one might conclude that he has a moral/social obligation to help stabilize the race. At some point, we need to get our black men to assume more responsibility for their children, be more positive role models, take on leadership, and help direct our communities forward. I commend those who are committed to the mission. Be it genocidal, political, or economic, brothers are in short supply.

Personally, it is my opinion that a black man is but half a man without a black woman in his life, corner, or by his side—Yo black man, come home, wake up and be whole.

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Hat s off to the members of OBP (Oregon Black Professionals) for their networking function last weekend at Montgomery Park. It was nice! It takes quality functions like yours to get people out of the house... Keep up the good work. Having outlets, socially, is what life is all about.

CELEBRATING YOUTH CELEBRATING YOU!

KOIN-TV, The Private Industry Council and Portland Public Schools announced this week the creation of "CELEBRATING YOUTH, CELEBRATING YOU!—A FESTIVAL OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE." This major community event will take place 10am-4pm Friday, March 23, 1990, at Portland's Peninsula Park.

The purpose of the festival is to celebrate the community's young people by helping them learn about the array of possibilities that lie before them.

Music, food and recreational activities will share space with booths showcasing information about summer jobs, alternative academic programs, and post-high school vocational and college opportunities. Present at the event will be accomplished professionals to talk with young people about how to enter various fields: business, trades, medicine, law, education, entertainment, media, the arts, government.

In addition, festival goers will have access to information on pertinent social issues ranging from drugs to parenting. "CELEBRATING YOUTH, CELEBRATING YOU!" is sponsored by KOIN-TV, The Private Industry Council and Portland Public Schools.

KOIN-TV is a division of Lee Enterprises, Inc. Lee publishes directly or through its affiliates daily newspapers in 18 cities and owns five television stations. Lee Enterprises also is involved in graphic arts systems through its affiliated company, NAPP Systems (USA).

YWCA HONORS OUTSTANDING WOMEN IN THE PORTLAND-METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY

In keeping with distinguished tradition, the YWCA of Portland will honor 11 outstanding individuals whose career and volunteer achievements have benefited the Portland metropolitan arts, education, science, volunteer and minority communities. The fifth annual women of Achievement event is underwritten by seven statewide and national corporations.

JORDAN, LEARY DENY OREGONIAN QUOTES



Charles Jordan

Portland Parks Superintendent Charles Jordan, and Self-Enhancement co-founder Ray Leary both adamantly denied statements attributed to them in an article published in Monday's Oregonian.

The article, written by Oregonian columnist Jonathan Nicholas, titled "Fight for King Blvd.? Forget it", quotes Jordan as saying "that the Portland City Council made a dumb mistake in renaming Union Avenue, and should have had the courage of its lack of conviction and reversed its decision." Nicholas also quotes Jordan as saying that the Council should let "this sorry business run its course".

In a statement released to the Observer today, Jordan claims his comments to Nicholas were, "If I were on the Council today, I would propose to the Council that I reverse our decision to rename Union Ave. before it goes to a vote. Reason being, a vote to change MLK, Jr. Blvd. back to Union Ave. could quite possibly signal once again that Portland is a leading proponent of racism." Jordan cites the murder of Mulugeta Seraw, the recent visit of Mississippi racist Mike Barrett to recruit members for his racist movement and the veto of the MLK, Jr. holiday in Arizona as examples of how a city acquires its racism stigma. Jordan states Blacks should invest in the acquisition of property on Union Ave. and then they can name it anything they want to.



Ray Leary

Jordan's statements are substantiated by Leary who claims he too was misquoted by the Oregonian on two separate occasions. According to Leary, the article described S.E.I. erroneously by implying that the program serves primarily low-income youth. Leary states Self Enhancement serves a cross segment of youth including high income some of whom may need certain challenges to broaden their career development.

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Both Jordan and Leary expressed regret that Nicholas took editorial liberties to express his own personal points of view.

NEW REHABILITATION PHYSICIAN JOINS EMANUEL STAFF

Dr. Sharon Loomis has joined the staff of the Emanuel Rehabilitation Center at Emanuel Hospital & Health Center in Portland. She is a Rehabilitation specialist with a special interest in spinal cord injuries.

Dr. Loomis graduated from the University of Montana and received her medical degree from the University of Washington School of Medicine. She did her internship at a Swedish Hospital in Seattle and completed her residency at the University of Washington Department of Rehab Medicine.

At Emanuel, Dr. Loomis plans to develop a team to work exclusively with spinal cord injury patients, and develop

an outpatient clinic for comprehensive spinal cord care.

The spinal cord injury program at the Emanuel Rehabilitation Center has recently received new accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF). The Emanuel Center is accredited for six major program areas, making it the most highly accredited physical rehabilitation center in the northwestern United States.

In addition to her medical experience, she has been active in a rape relief center, helped organize a Hospice chapter, was a high school science teacher, and even built her own home in Montana.