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It is Not The "Persian Gulf", Folks: It Was Called The "Ethiopian Sea"!

by Professor McKinley Burt

And "Ethiopia" to the ancients including Biblical Prophets as well as the Greeks was not only Egypt, "The Blackland," but The Sudan, Libya, Abyssinia, Punt and most of Saudi Arabia as well. You would not know these things from reading most contemporary histories with their deliberate omissions of black contributions to culture and technology. It is for this reason I buy books which reproduce ancient maps now found almost exclusively in museums or the Vatican Archives. The manipulation of geography has been a principal ploy of racists.



Kyra Parker

Today's explosive situation in the "Middle East" ('Near' East?) is highly by belligerencies among the nations of Iraq and Kuwait and earlier, Iran. In my high school days the area was referred to as Mesopotamia, but more to the point, the "Ethiopian Sea" derived its name many thousands of years ago because of the presence, culture, conquests and administrations of African peoples. Stone inscriptions and papyrus tell it all, from treaties and administrative fiat to religious ceremonies and shipping documents. See W.E.B. Dubois, "The World And Africa," and see Montet, "Eternal Egypt".

I like the way that Montet puts it (pp.220,221, "...a people of very high antiquity, who lived before the Trojan

War, and long before the Bible stories were put into writing." Dubois in a chapter, "The Land of The Burnt Faces" (pp.128,129) documents the Middle East conquests and administrations of African Kings, and Queens of Egypt and the Sudan (Thothmose I, 11, 111) "...Thothmose I, the conqueror of Syria and the Valley of the Euphrates...Thothmose III...his granite head with distinct Negro features is in the British Museum...conquered Syria in 17 campaign and crossed the Euphrates...The Babylonians and Syrians sent their daughters to him in marriage, and the descendants of Syrian Rulers, conquered by his father and educated in Egypt, ruled as slaves of the Pharaohs."

Matthew Prophet, Superintendent of Portland Public Schools, did say several weeks ago, "The world continues to change rapidly and today's generation of children is seeing, feeling and facing things on a scale not even imagined by most adults." Oh, Sir, many of us adults "do" imagine "the scale of change." But, we also know that some very basic facts have not changed at all, and they never will; the truth and reality of factual history is among them. In order to function as educated and cultured citizens, fully able to participate equitably in the political and economic order, individuals and peoples must be motivated, and must know who they are, where they have been and their true role in the order of things. An educational process of 'EXCELLENCE' will do just that!

This newspaper recently highlighted ceremonies of a local "African American Festival" which culminated with a colorful parade of community citizens, I was very impressed with the spectacle-this has always been a tradition in African American communities. But, let us return to ancient times for an account of the origin of the African festival 5000 years ago at a time when Africa ruled the world. Just this brief description should alert you to the source

of all that 'pomp and circumstance' (and finery) found among European Royalty and the Establishment Church. Elisabeth Lamy will provide you with a de-



Rachelle Greenidge

tailed description in her book, "Egyptian Mysteries"-and see "Time-Life Series: Egypt."

Hathor of Dendera and Horus of Edfu; "Horus the Elder was venerated particularly as the divinity of light, triumphant over Seth, entity of darkness.On the inner face of the Temple of Edfu is a minutely detailed description of THE REUNION, in the course of which Hathor of Dendera was brought to meet Horus at the new moon to celebrate the day of the conjunction. So rich in detail are the Edfu Texts that they enable us to reconstruct this happy festival in an evocative summary."

"Excitement pervaded Dendera, starting on the 4th of the month of Epiph and festivities followed one another practically without interruption...after several weeks the 'Beautiful Sailing of Hathor', the great annual voyage would take place [down the Nile], and the rite of the first fruits of the field would be celebrated...tens of thousands came to the river banks from the cities and the desert oases.

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Business Profile: Valerie B. Currie President of One on One Tax Service

By Ulysses Tucker, Jr.

Valerie B. Currie is President/Owner of One on One Tax Service because she has worked hard, believed in her dream to own a business, and had something to offer the general public. It is one thing to desire your own business, but a company must have a service the people need or want. Death and taxes are two elements that consumers cannot avoid. No one knows football; Currie knows taxes and how to take full advantage of federal regulations or law. For eight years, Currie worked as a tax auditor/Revenue agent for the Internal Revenue Service before establishing her company in October of 1989. In this nation, there is no better teacher than the IRS when it comes to learning about taxes and tax law.

A 1985 graduate of Portland State U. (business administration/accounting), Currie is married to Dan Currie, a Data System Coordinator for the Portland Public Schools. They have one child (Adrain, 13). She has a background in public relations, recruiting, and computers. When questioned about why she wanted her own business, the soft-spoken Currie smiled and gave the following answer.

"After working for the IRS for so long, I wanted to take my skills and do something else with them. I started my own business because it is a service to the community and I get the chance to do what I like, taxes."

Portland Observer-How can you come to love something that everyone hates?
 Currie-"Taxes are very interesting. It involves a lot of people, it's ever-changing, dynamic, a challenge, and it's something that I like to do."

Portland Observer-How difficult is it to stay on top of ever-changing tax law?
 Currie-"It's really not all that difficult once you get the basic understanding of how it all works. What you are looking for are the changes that take place within the different sections of tax law."

Portland Observer-What simple tax advantages do we commonly overlook?
 Currie-"That would probably be interest expense on your mortgage, contribu-

tions to charity, business expenses would be a major one and that includes supplies and educational seminars, etc...All people do not have the same needs. Each situation is totally different."

Portland Observer-What basic services do you offer?



Valerie B. Currie

Currie-"Bookkeeping, tax research, handle audit problems, tax returns, payroll, employer quarterly taxes, or anything that involves taxes with the state or federal government."

Portland Observer-Were the risks of starting your own business worth it?

Currie-"The biggest thrill to me has been the reception of the community. When you first start out, you have no idea who your clients are going to be or how you're going to interact with them. Everyone has been so receptive to me. Yes, it was worth the risk."

Portland Observer-What advice do you have for people wanting to start their own business?

Currie-"I would say, know what you want to do and know what you can do. Make sure you have the necessary support system also. Startup cost and organizational expense are looked over a great deal by new businesses. What I've found out is that the great majority of people who go into business know what they want to do, but lack the awareness of the different taxes that are involved or

what they have to pay. County, city, and federal government all have certain taxes that they charge. People starting new businesses should come in and talk to me first about the type of business they want to go into or start because they will

run into certain laws or problems associated with the business. Each business has its advantages as to what you can or can not write off as far as expenses are concerned. People need to know this up front."

Portland Observer-Do most people take advantage of the tax laws that exist?

Currie-"No, because they are bombarded with so much tax information that people are generally afraid of the tax system as it is today. So, they are mainly talking to other people in businesses like theirs or others in business to find out what they are doing. Laws change overnight. A lot of people don't have an accountant or a tax person to help them out. When they have questions during tax time, they get the busy signal from the IRS and they are still left with the problem of filing on time. It is especially difficult if you haven't kept adequate records."

Portland Observer-Most people's perception is that they cannot afford a tax consultant or accountant. Is it correct for them to think this way?
 Currie-"If you are looking for a CPA, the cost will be high. As a licensed tax consultant like myself, the cost is reasonable priced. It all depends on whether I'm representing you before or after the IRS gets involved, or the state. I can speak of one case where I saved a person \$50,000 with some basic information. I can really help people save some money, believe me."

Portland Observer-What do you see for your business in the future?
 Currie-"Of course I would like to grow. I would like more branch offices and serve as a liaison between the IRS and the state. I want to protect people and provide proper advice to them."

Portland Observer-Good luck!
 Currie-"Thanks a lot."

One on One Tax Service is located at 317 Northeast Killingsworth, (503) 289-0851.

Nike Prez Says "Our Actions Speak for Themselves"...And They Do

by Angelique Sanders

In the last few days, the Black community has collected its anger against the Nike corporation's racially-negligent business policies, and, touched off by a series of events including a PUSH-supported rally, rallied against the Nike corporation.

Monday started out calmly: members of Black support groups from Chicago met with the media and members of Bethel church to eat lunch and share ideas on the Nike-PUSH controversy. A demonstrator from PUSH carried a sign proclaiming the evils of Nike. Tee-shirts bearing the caption, "Nike said no to us...Say no to Nike" sold tremendously. The next stop was Nike headquarters in Beaverton, where Darryl Tukufu, Ronnie Herndon, and Robert Philips attempted to mediate for Nike and PUSH. No results were found at this, and angered participants moved on to rally at Mt. Olivet church.

The Nike Chairman, Philip Knight, recently said, "This year, 21% of the new employees hired at Nike have been minorities. That should show you how serious our commitment is to affirmative action." Knight, that doesn't show a commitment to affirmative action, it shows that you're filling your quotas. What the Black community wants to know, Knight, is where are the African Americans at the top rungs of

the ladder? Don't you want them sitting next to you at the board meetings? Are you saying Blacks can fill the peon jobs, but should not be in the vice presidency at Nike, or the board of directors? At Nike headquarters in Beaverton, there used to be a qualification for working there that said you needed to live within a certain distance from the plant. Is there some stipulation for Nike board members that says applicants must live in Bensonhurst? As the head of the local chapter of the NAACP, Robert Philips, says, any corporation that doesn't have African Americans on every rung of the ladder "has a serious problem".

In a recent speech, Donahue, the president of Nike reminded the audience--as if to defend himself against racism--that they have a \$5 million ad campaign that features Bo Jackson, David Robinson, and John Thompson, as well as Spike Lee and Michael Jordan. I hope Nike doesn't feel they can hide behind that when people call them racist. Nike, we aren't interested in your stats that tell us you have no qualms with Blacks being shoe salesmen, or that popular Blacks can grace your advertising. When we invest money in your corporation via your overpriced merchandise, we expect some respect and some results. We're seeing neither. Your \$5 million dollar ad campaign WILL NOT WIN US

BACK. We are not afraid to take our money elsewhere until we can see Nike producing results! Perhaps the heads of



Mediators at the Nike-PUSH confrontation at National Urban League are (from left) Robert Philips, Darryl Tukufu, and Ronnie Herndon.

Nike are sitting on their hands, thinking, "oh, well, Blacks only account for 13% of our market", but, sirs, Blacks aren't the only ones who are angered. The Nike name is going down like Revlon did; it will be correlated with racism, and people: NIKES JUST AREN'T "COOL" ANYMORE! TAKE ACTION!

The Observer has approached Nike for advertising in the past. It will come as no shock to readers, I'm sure, that Mike has turned us down. They are

only interested in advertising with lily-white media: Nike will not touch Black papers or Black radio. And why are you

tape over the name and the trademark swoosh, or cut them off...otherwise you're advertising for Nike and against your brothers and sisters. I am completely shocked that our Black support groups, such as the National Urban League, do not agree on this issue. The Observer says to you: We're working for the downtrodden Blacks. Who are you working for? We have been stomped on by Nike, and we don't need to take this. When you think of how hard you work for each dollar you earn, imagine spending against your race! Imagine your African Americans in the Nike corporation being denied promotions due to their color, because you wanted to look good. This is completely unacceptable.

I don't need to ask you which side you think Martin Luther King would have supported on this, because you know in your hearts. Each and every brother and sister out there truly knows the right from the wrong in this issue, and we need to get used to exerting our power!

Nike, where are you? The Black community is waiting...Of course, we all expect you to refrain from negotiating until you can "pump up" your figures, to supposedly illustrate the high hiring rate of Blacks. After the negotiating is done, we'll expect to see these

people out of work.

The Nike Chairman said recently, "Watch us. We can get even better." Well, you've surely caught our attention. But you've got a long way to go before African Americans are going to trust their money with you...

Nike, where are you? The Black community is waiting...

- My demands of Nike:**
- 1) Blacks will have the potential to rise above the lower levels of the corporation, all the way to the top, based on capability rather than color
 - 2) Nike will discontinue to ignore the Black media, investing in Black media 13% of the time, to match the 13% of the market Blacks hold
 - 3) You shall continue to invest in the Black community proportionately to the white community
 - 4) You will rid the company of any racially-biased parties that have caused the situation the company is presently in
 - 5) You will pull your funding of any sort--taxes or employee wages--out of South Africa

Until you meet these demands, I have no interest in backing up your company with my money.