

# The Mourning Of Men In Blue Fails To Stir Public Sympathy For Gates

## L.A.'s Police Chief Awakens to a New And Colder Morning

A three part series by A. Lee Henderson

*Beautiful that war and all its deeds of carnage must in time be utterly lost, That the hands of the sisters Death and Night incessantly softly wash again and ever again, this soiled world.*

*Reconciliation by Walt Whitman  
You deal in the raw material of opinion, and, if my convictions have any validity, opinion ultimately governs the world.*

Address to Associated Press,  
April 20, 1915, Woodrow Wilson



Dr. A. Lee Henderson

"This soiled world" reads itself once more for an uneasy peacetime, signified sadly by the recent Los Angeles spectacle of members of the Police Department brutalizing a young black man, defenseless on the city streets, who had been apprehended for a reputed speeding violation.

The new eyes-and-conscience of the world purrs, its motors humming, in the technology available through video cameras in the hands of private citizens, instantly available to chronicle the unwitting offenders...this time the blows administered through batons (nightsticks wielded as clubs) by three officers who struck over 50 times and also kicked the pleading victim, Rodney Glenn King, 25, while a dozen other people, among them police witnesses, standing silently by the Lakeview Terrace area incident.

Shocking?  
No more than usual as any of us know who have been regaled over the years with cries of "police brutality" that have gone uncontested for want of proof or pursuit of law enforcement. For want of the average citizens' ability to rally people to his defense for fear of public humiliation, exposure of an arrest record, and simply...because it's too hard to prove their story against the police testimony that contradicts their claims as "unfounded".

It is not a case of "them" against "us".  
It is a case of non-equal justice. Minorities are the whipping "dogs"...easily the butt of hostilities meted out by those in police uniforms who are not adequately trained, screened, or prepared for their on-duty assignments in the role of "peace officers". There are exceptions...good ones, to be sure.

Our concern is to more adequately set up the citizens' watch cross-country which can change the face of our nation's police enforcement bodies into models better equipped to protect its

citizenry.

During the Persian Gulf War we saw the military put into effect a barrage of sensitivity training programs to alleviate racism and render even more effective the power of our integrated troops against a common enemy attacking its Victim...Kuwait.

Today, our common enemy is crime attacking its citizenry...you and me. We have got to mobilize to protect the entire citizenry...even a former criminal returned to its ranks such as Rodney Glenn King. No police rationale can justify the vicious beating we saw through the secret eyes of a video camera...watching. The witnesses became you and me. We do not legally batter people to teach them lessons.

Not in America. Nor will we allow ourselves to graduate into a police state...not a police state mentality, nor a police state methodology.

IT CAN'T HAPPEN HERE, and it's time that we assert ourselves through our legislators to re-inforce their positions.

Promises to eliminate the plagues of "peace" officer violence will not suffice. We know the score. And we know that we may invoke the words of our nation's President Bush to sound the drum roll for Action Now since he spoke of "setting the face of the nation against discrimination, hate and bigotry and to eliminate that." His State of the Nation address following the Persian Gulf War ironically preceded L.A.'s police brutality.

Police Chief Daryl F. Gates in his speech at the Los Angeles Police Academy took the best defense...a strong offense as he swiped back at his city's Mayor Bradley and the American Civil Liberties Union. The Police Academy rallied nearly 60 commanding officers, including Assistant Chief Robert Vernon to support the manner in which Gates handled the incident...the beating of King, an Altadena citizen. The League's president Lt. George Aliano said he would send ballots out immediately to solicit a "vote of confidence" for Gates, their chief, among their police...8,200 members. The morale of police was said to be seriously impacted the actions "of a few" reflecting the good guys. So we were told.

The organized police department in Los Angeles is behaving...or being led to behave...as a powerful cordon of loyalists to their police chief who, their leaders say has been subjected to a "lynch-mob mentality" requesting his resignation.

Los Angeles is no small microcosm of the nation's police departments. Multiply in cities across the country the unreported misuse of force by licensed police. That alarms us.

The unity rallied behind Gates suggests that he is positioning himself for a vigorous defense against the public opposition expressed to date, the actions to redress the unprovoked beating of citizen Rodney King by the ACLU and the questions that have popped into the minds of the unsuspecting public who has either been wearing blinders to civil rights history or prefers to remain numb, and can no longer.

Gates is clever. He is playing political football to maintain his absolute power, and he is doing it within the police department to maximize his control at a time most crucial for his survival.

He is not about to resign or accept charges that he is the father figure too often quoted in favor of a lethal law that would kill drug offenders. A police chief who disowned his own son several years ago for drug abuses parades macho and merciless attitudes. That is his privilege...to deny his son or renounce any degree of fatherly guilt, blame or complicity. When Gates displays a blameless-at-all-costs facade of swagger before the men in his command, they get the message. They emulate their Chief in giving themselves permission to judge. Police are peace officers...not judges. They imitate Gates too often with a militancy that stomps on individual rights indiscriminately under the guise of "upholding the law." Are they? And why should they question themselves? Does Police Chief Gates question himself?

Obviously those who do question him...the American Civil Liberties Union, for example, come directly into the line of his emotional fire...he even sneers at the ACLU's invaluable reputation for fairness as an investigative, objective body geared to protecting human civil rights...Gates dismisses the ACLU and other critics because he feels they are displaying a "lynch mob mentality." They are out to get him, not defend wrong-doing or due process or civil abuses.

The local incident in Las Vegas where three policemen entered a private residence without a search warrant and brutalized a black man on the basis of "suspicion", not fact. The "restraint" resulted in their chokehold killing him. The three policemen were tried in the courts and a verdict of not-guilty was rendered with a failsafe prohibition locked into the decision...no retrial.

The Las Vegas incident was covered in local papers.

I was told about it, but to my knowledge the "incident largely avoided national publicity.

Perhaps the local papers nationwide preferred to ignore the story as a local incident...nothing impacting other cities or states. If this is true, we had

Continued next week



## Isaac Newton: Black History Student

There is good reason to reemphasize the many facets of this noted scientist's research and investigations. While he is best known for his "Theory of Universal Gravitation", it is usually concealed from us that his first academic pursuits were in the areas of African history, religion, philosophy and mathematics. An examination of the early thoughts and writings clearly reveal how and where Newton developed his concept of a single, unifying "UNIVERSAL" force that unified nature and man.

Thanks to the scholars at Cambridge University, England, we know what 99% of American academics do not wish us to know;

that Newton's "first" book was "A Dissertation upon the sacred Cubit of the Jews and the cubits of several Nations: in which from the Dimensions of the Greatest Pyramid, as taken by Mr. John Greaves, the ancient Cubit of Memphis [Africa] is determined." (The "Cubit" is an ancient African unit of measurement that was proliferated throughout the known world - Temple of Solomon/Moses', Noah's Ark; Greece and Rome).

Why is this type of information so important at this late date? For one thing, in these times of organized and malevolent attacks upon the intellectual capabilities of blacks throughout history, it is terribly important that both we and our children have in reply clear, documented evidence of our seminal contributions to the culture and technology of civilization. Certainly, last

## PERSPECTIVES

by Professor McKinley Burt

week, I made some inroads against the "tribes of racist detractors". But, "eternal vigilance" is required and I used the school district's "Baseline Essays" and Sunday's "Town Hall Program" (KATU) to make my point.

Isaac Newton, in order to prove his theory of gravitation, had found it necessary, first, to establish reliable "universal" standards of measurements in respect to the earth and the solar system.

There were only two places on earth where such values could be established; at the GREAT PYRAMID; GIZEH, AFRICA and in Israel where conquering Kings of Egypt and Ethiopia had established their administrations, including standards of measurement.

This is why Newton studied the works of the Jewish historian Josephus to correlate the "cubit" of the pillars of the Temple at Jerusalem to that of the African Pyramid.

This is also why Thomas Jefferson incorporated the Pyramid and the eye of the African god, Horus into THE GREAT SEAL OF THE UNITED STATES (See the reverse side of a one dollar bill). So we see it as an obscene joke when we have a modern writer saying "...there can never be a scientist like Newton again...for scientists now have books and libraries, microfilms, computerized information. NEWTON HAD NOTHING...except Galileo's thoughts and Kepler's laws of Planetary Motion (p.135, Beckman, "The History of Pi", St. Martins, 1971). If we blacks are to motivate our youth effectively in this world of increasing technological complexity we have got to teach them who they are and who they 'were'.

In the same vein, they need to know that among that graffiti left by visitors (and plagiarists) to that great

African Pyramid is that of two noted mathematicians who are alleged to have made the discoveries for which they are famous. "Fibonacci," son of Itlay's merchantile consul to Africa, for whom the most powerful tool of modern mathematics and physics is named. And "Mercator", the master(?) of geometry for whom the famous "Mercator Map Projection" is named. In his 1971 book, "Secrets of the Great Pyramid", Peter Tompkins shows how a junior high school student could derive these universal equation from an examination of the African Pyramid (Newton did-YOUR CHILD COULD!)

Nothing has changed much has it? We have it, "In 1720 rumors spread among the historians of Paris that Newton had descended from the heavens where he had DIVINED THE LAWS of the movements of the planets, and had deigned to study chronology, mythology and the revolutions of states and empires" (principally African). See p.21, Maneul, "Isaac Newton: Historian", Harvard U. Press, 1963" and see, Westfall, "Never At Rest: A Biography of Isaac Newton", Cambridge U. Press, 1987 ed.

Fortunately, at the time Isaac Newton was doing his research and writing (17th century), Charles Darwin had not yet produced his great work on evolution, "The Origin of Species By Means of Natural Selection-Or The Preservation of FAVORED RACES In The Struggle For Life" (published middle of 19th century). I say this because the racists of the world seized upon Darwin's book to justify every preconception that ever existed in respect to the 'Superiority of the northern European races. Newton 'told it like it was'-like he found it (and used it)-from African science and astronomy to religion and culture; even in his 'sermons' given in Trinity Chapel.

## United Way Names Vice President

Priscilla Seaborg has been appointed vice president of public policy at United Way of the Columbia-Willamette.

Seaborg has been with United Way for one year as government relations director. She currently working with other human services providers to encourage the 1991 Legislature to main-

tain funding levels for those programs, which face potential budget cuts because of Measure 5.

Before coming to United Way, Seaborg was a federal public defender in Portland, representing indigent people charged in U.S. District Court. Seaborg received her law degree

from Indiana University in 1981 and is a member of the Indiana State Bar. This follows a 1977 bachelor of arts degree in forensic studies from the same university. She passed the Oregon State Bar exam in 1990.

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## Reinvestments in the Community

### Gospel Jubilee Excites 900 at Concert Hall

Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall packed in nearly 900 people for the First Annual Northwest Gospel Jubilee last Saturday. The crowd was extremely jubilant in response to the program. The evening's presentation consisted of two acts; the first act introduced evolution of gospel music from the early 1600s (and included the presentation of slaves and their masters). It illustrated the tyranny, the violence, the heartache, and the separation of families that the slaves endured. These sufferers had been brought over on slave ships against their will to be sold in America. During the second act, gospel music was presented to the audience, through the African dance and its music of that era, led by Bruce Smith and the Afrikan Ballet dancers. In their depiction, they caused the audience to feel the true rhythm of African music as it was over four hundred years ago.

The Sojourner Truth Theatre's actors and actresses gave a life-like imagery of the suffering of the slaves. The cast consisted of both Black and white performers.

Brenda Phillips, who portrayed a blues singer, rendered an extraordinary performance. She showed to the audience the correlation between blues and gospel music. This performance was more than just a form of entertainment; there were slide presentations that gave stimulating imagery on triple-screens. The penetrating voice of Glenda Pullen brought the audience to their feet with the presentation of "Precious Lord, Take My Hand", as it was sung by Mahalia Jackson many years ago. The work that went into this production, the assistance from the community, and the spon-

sorship from the various businesses, all came together to make the event enduring and very successful.

A special twelve-voice ensemble

**Brenda Phillips, who portrayed a blues singer, rendered an extraordinary performance. She showed to the audience the correlation between blues and gospel music.**

presented spirituals, such as "Amazing Grace", "Steal Away", "Go Down Moses", and a presentation from the FISK Jubilee Singers of Nashville Tennessee. The music director Ricky Callier, along with producer Bruce Watts, developed the script and the format. The second act presented Maranthe Choir, the Angelic Glow and Love Band, Sermonettes, and the Watson family from Tacoma. The inspirational sounds all came together in the presentation of the second act, giving the audience a well-rounded presentation of origin of African American Gospel music. The first was narrated by J. Camell Foreman. The emcee for the evening was Jeanette Russell Brown; the program director was Bruce M. Watts; lighting was done by Kobe Enright. Costume design was thought up by Wanda Walden; the theatrical director was Nyewusi Askari; Bruce Smith acted as dance director; while Glen Butler and Ayanna Patterson were in charge of stage direction. Set design was conducted by Mark Loring; the technical director was John Pierce; Gloria Carter was in charge of publicity; and the program assistant was Andrea Salmon. The president of the African

American Festival Association, Waverly Davis, would like to convey this message:

*To the citizens of metropolitan Portland and this region for bringing the African American Festival into the mainstream of special events. It is truly a pleasure for the African American Festival Association to have been able to bring to the Portland metropolitan community, a great visibility of the rich culture and art of the African American Community through this unique presentation that introduced the course of gospel music from the early 1600s to the quality of livability we enjoy in Portland, and wish to further enhance, which would not be possible without committed citizens continually striving toward the goal of unity in the community. I would like to convey special thanks and deep appreciation to our board of directors and executive committee for their lavish efforts. Commissioner Mike Lindberg, his staff and the Portland City Council, Portland Rose Festival Association and its president Norm Daniels. A very special thanks to the Portland Observer newspaper's staff and management for their hard work and dedication.*

*I wish to give the most high honor to the Lord for the vision and the challenge to serve in this capacity and to serve the N-NE community.*

"Reinvestments in the Community" is a weekly column appearing in API publications throughout the USA.

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The Black Press believes that America can best lead the world away from social and national antagonisms when it accords to every person, regardless of race, color, or creed, full human and legal rights. Having no person, fearing no person, the Black Press strives to help every person in the firm belief that all are hurt as long as anyone is held back.

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### Calling 911? - Don't Hang Up!

Investigations surrounding recent incidents involving emergency 911 calls have revealed the importance of not hanging up an calling again if you are put on hold. By hanging up, the caller jeopardizes the position his/her call will be taken when calling back again. Also, with the new enhanced 911 system, operators know the phone number of the caller. Those people who call in and hang up are given to a 911 Operator for follow-up. That Operator attempts to call the number back to check on the caller. Callers who repeatedly call and hang up, are actually hindering Operator attempts to answer their call quickly. Although it sometimes happens that callers are put on hold when calling 911, Mayor Clark and Commissioner Dick Bogle are working to prevent it from ever happening. Part of the problem is that more trained operators are needed. Operators with different level of expertise and training handle different types of calls. Another problem occurs when people use 911 for non emergency calls, preventing operators from responding to true emergencies [see following].

#### WHEN SHOULD YOU USE 911?

The following information is reprinted from a City of Portland Emergency Communications Advisory:

- \* Any situation which is occurring now and which could be life threatening or could result in loss of large amount of property
- \* There is a fight occurring now
- \* There is an assault occurring now
- \* There is a fire burning now
- \* There is a medical problem occurring now which could be life threatening