

EDITORIAL

perspectives

From Health Care To Money Care

THANK YOU FOR THAT EXCELLENT RESPONSE TO LAST WEEK'S ARTICLE ON "HEALTH CARE"; I'M GLAD YOU UNDERSTAND THAT THE SUCCESS OF ANY GOOD DELIVERY SYSTEM IS A MATTER OF ECONOMICS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

Whether you wish to heal people, feed people, house them or whatever, your "bleeding heart" must be sustained by equal doses of competence and information. Not only would I suggest that you obtain a copy of last week's Perspective Column, but my "Minority Business" article in the same issue -- as well as this weeks. It is becoming increasingly evident to those engaged in a wide spectrum of human activity that the basic architecture must be built around economics and information retrieval. Romance without finance is still a nuisance!

It was on such criteria that my medical education proposal was favorably evaluated by the administration at Providence Medical Center and which is the basis for consideration of my new model by various players in the health care industry. From the very first contact or solicitation interface it is necessary to indicate that there has been a real-time

development of facts, figures and solutions. Not rhetoric.

I mention this because a cyclical phenomenon has over-come me, "deja vu all over again" as that famous baseball player said. About two months ago and unheralded, let alone invited (singly and in groups, some strangers), a raft of grant seekers began finding their way to my door.

Well, certainly not because I have money to give out or because I am connected to any foundation. But because as a friend of mine put it, a retired school teacher, "they have been reading in the media glowing accounts of big bucks being awarded to community organizations such as Self-Enhancement. They seek expertise, real or imagined."

Don't I know it! Not only in Portland, but in all African American communities across the nation there has come into being a gigantic economic enterprise -- a multibillion dollar machine that was born in the 1960's as part of President Johnson's "Great Society". While that particular social experiment is not what this article is about, it is important to point out that a goodly number of these grant requests are for programs to plug holes in the dike where major programs have failed. And further, that a huge number of black people -- completely out of proportion to other communities -- are employed in the

expedition of these programs as opposed to producing goods and services in the classic mode of industry.

Consequently, it should not be surprising that there should be so many people about whose idea of "business, income-producing activity, or support of the infrastructure and community institutions" is in no fashion related to the traditional American version. The value system is completely different and over the last thirty years the resulting mind set has become almost incomprehensible to many. I first become aware of the depth of the chasm when I left industry and began teaching business courses at the university.

So it is that two major disabilities occur in the African American population. There is an economic dependency on "other" to create jobs and supply services -- leading to a subsequent loss of self-image and a vision of the future. And since so many have no opportunity by either employment or association to benefit from the expertise, perspectives, and discipline to be learned in the marketplace, the community social programs suffer from a lack of business methodology and systematic approach.

The situation is endemic and I am losing friends informing them that I cannot stop my enterprises to perform tasks for them which should have been prepared for in terms of office equipment, manuals, books, research, consultants, etc. "Structure is essential to programs as well as business."

NATIONAL RAINBOW COALITION

Rainbow President Reports On Middle East

CAN PEACE EVER COME TO THE HOLY LAND? FOR A BRIEF MOMENT LAST FALL WHEN PRIME MINISTER YITZHAK RABIN OF ISRAEL AND CHAIRMAN YASSIR ARAFAT OF THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION SHOOK HANDS, PEACE FILLED THE AIR.

On the road to Hebron in the West Bank, the traffic stopped. Palestinian children danced among the cars waving PLO flags. Israeli settlers exchanged greetings and began to wave green, red and white flags.

The promise of that moment is fading fast. While the peace makers have been dickering about the details of the agreement, the saboteurs have been violently assaulting the hope for peace. The massacre of Palestinians praying in Hebron by a Jewish settler was devastating, and more Palestinians have been slain since Hebron than were lost at the massacre. The bombing of innocent Israelis in Afula has been followed by other attempts at terror, some horribly successful by Palestinian rejectionists.

I traveled to Israel and the West Bank last week on a joint invitation from Palestinians and the Israeli government. In meetings with Prime Minister Rabin and Foreign Minister Peres, and telephone discussions with

PLO Chairman Arafat, I urged these leaders to go back to the bargaining table personally, to cut through the bureaucratic concerns to conclude the agreement rapidly so that change could be felt immediately on the ground. Both the leaders in Israel and in the PLO realize that if the fruits of peace cannot be tasted quickly by Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza, then the poisonous violence may kill the peace tree before it can take root.

The leaders on each side face terribly difficult decisions. In Israel, every act of terror becomes an argument against going forward. In response, the government imposes security measures that only breed anger, frustration and more violence from the Palestinians. Somehow the government must be strong enough to move away from sweeping, collective punishments (the iron presence of the occupier) to give the Palestinians, peace can only be built on developing trust. If they cannot control the extremists who target innocent victims, as at Afula, then surely they must isolate them, condemn the acts of terror, even as they begin to build their own autonomous institutions and economy.

Cynicism is the common coin in the Middle East. Reporters, Israelis and Palestinians can detail many rea-

sons why nothing can or will change. In many ways, a hundred year war is easier to continue than to stop. There is a tendency among both Israelis and Palestinians to recycle their pain, to dwell on their losses, to let the horrors blind them to the hope.

But through bold and decisive leadership, Rabin and Arafat-former enemies-have taken mutual risks for peace. They are now bound together. Rabin cannot succeed unless Arafat is strong; Arafat cannot succeed unless Rabin is strong.

Peace is risky to both of them. But war is risky too, and the fruits of peace are much sweeter. Now in this crucial moment, it is vital that people across the world offer support and encouragement for continuing this peace process. The United States and its allies should be acting boldly to grease the tracks that have already been laid, and to help get the train moving before it is too late.

Some contend that to be optimistic about peace in the Middle East is merely to be a dreamer. But Rabin and Arafat are not dreamers, but leaders seeking a way out. Perhaps, they are wise enough to understand that in this moment, it is time to work tirelessly on making the dream come true in the Middle East, so that the nightmares won't continue.



By Professor McKinley Burt

Civil Rights Journal

Fairness For Haiti

BY BERNICE POWELL JACKSON
HAITI IS A COUNTRY WITH A RICH AND PROUD HISTORY, OF WHICH MANY AMERICANS ARE UNAWARE.

We don't know, for instance, that Haiti's fledgling little army defeated the renowned army of the emperor Napoleon. We don't know that Haiti has been independent since 1804. But Haiti is also a country with a long tragic history of political chaos, instability and terrorism, a history of a people longing for democracy as yet unfulfilled.

The United States played a pivotal role in Haiti's history at least once in the past, during the early part of this century when the United States occupied Haiti. Now, the United States once again holds Haiti's future in its hands. It is up to the Clinton Administration to decide whether it wants to go down in history supporting real democracy in Haiti or whether it wants to be a friend to a government which rules its people by terror and rape.

The Congressional Black Caucus recently wrote a letter to President Clinton, putting it bluntly, "The

United States' Haiti policy must be scrapped." It added, "It is ineffective, counterproductive, and encourages the continued torture and murder of Haitian civilians."

Indeed, a recent visit by the U.N. Civilian Mission to Haiti, a human rights monitoring team, found that there have been dozens of killings and disappearances and that there is a frightening and new phenomenon of rape being used as an instrument of political violence. In the Duvalier dictatorship the monstrous Tontons Macoute were the government's terrorist army which tortured and killed hundreds, if not thousands of Haitians through the years. Now the next generation of these thugs, known as the Front for Advancement and Progress or Fraph, are running rampant. A recent article on the op/ed page of the New York Times described "facial scalplings" by these blood-thirsty soldiers intent on keeping terror in the hearts of Haitians and democracy out of Haiti.

The irony of it all is that candidate Clinton vociferously denounced the Haitian policy of President Bush, who had ordered the U.S. Coast Guard

to pick up people fleeing Haiti by boat and to return them to Haiti without considering their requests for political asylum. Only a few days after becoming President, Clinton re-instituted that same policy he had decried. Both candidate Clinton and President Clinton have said that human rights is a priority of this Administration. The ignoring of the illegal trading of gasoline and other goods to Haiti despite a U.S. backed U.N. embargo and other policies concerning Haiti thus far belie this statement.

In recent months, the State Department has put forth a dangerous policy which assures amnesty to the leaders of the coup which ousted the democratically elected President, Jean Bertrand Aristide, and doesn't set a target date for President Aristide's return to Haiti. It has also brought to the table a Haitian legislator widely known to be connected with the terrorist Fraph group. According to the congressional Black Caucus, "Our entire Haiti policy appears to be a series of machinations on the part of the world's sole superpower to derail the democratic program so painfully and movingly embraced by our hemisphere's poorest people."

As new stories of horrible human rights violations appear daily, it is imperative that the Clinton Administration change its Haiti policy. First, it must denounce the campaign of terror now going on in Haiti and call for an investigation into these actions by a recognized human rights violations group. Secondly, it must work to make the embargo of oil a reality. That would include pressuring the neighboring Dominican Republic, which has surreptitiously allowed oil into Haiti and imposing sanctions against any country that violates the embargo. Thirdly, the U.S. must stop sending Haitian refugees back to Haiti without a hearing by U.S. immigration officials -- never before in U.S. history have we taken such steps and such actions easily lead to charges of racism. Finally, the Clinton Administration must look into its own soul and admit it has an inadequate State Department plan. Such a plan sabotages the governors' Island Accord which the U.S. itself had sponsored only months ago and makes the world question the sincerity of our public pronouncements about democracy.

Celebrate Diversity

Fabric Depot

THE LARGEST, MOST COMPLETE RETAIL FABRIC STORE IN THE WEST
APRIL 12 THROUGH APRIL 26, 1994

40% Off All
Notions & Trims

50% Off All
Corduroy

50% OFF

All Denim, Twill, Canvas & Duck Cloth

50% OFF All Flat Folds

50% OFF All Remnants

50% OFF
All Fake Fur

50% OFF
All Sweatshirt, Outerwear & Bunting Fleece

BE SURE TO CHECK OUR STORE FOR "MANAGER'S SPECIALS"
Discounts do not apply to special purchase or previously discounted or marked down items 4/12 thru 4/26



RETAIL HOURS:
MON-FRI 9:00am-9:00pm
SATURDAY 9:00am-7pm
SUNDAY 10:00am-7pm
WHOLESALE HOURS:
MON-FRI 7:30am-5:30pm
SATURDAY 9:00am-5pm
SUNDAY 11:00am-1pm

Prices good April 12 through April 26, 1994
RETAIL - WHOLESALE
Plenty of **FREE PARKING**
CARS • BUSES • RVs
700 S.E. 122nd Ave.
Portland, OR
252-9530

The Portland Observer

(USPS 959-680)

OREGON'S OLDEST AFRICAN AMERICAN PUBLICATION

Established in 1970 by Alfred L. Henderson

Joyce Washington
Publisher

The PORTLAND OBSERVER is located at
4747 NE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Portland, Oregon 97211
503-288-0033 * Fax 503-288-0015

Deadline for all submitted materials:

Articles: Monday, 5:00 pm Ads: Tuesday Noon

POSTMASTER: Send Address Changes to: Portland Observer,
P.O. Box 3137, Portland, OR 97208.

Second Class postage paid at Portland, Oregon.

The Portland Observer welcomes freelance submissions. Manuscripts and photographs should be clearly labeled and will be returned. If accompanied by a self-addressed envelope. All created design display ads become the sole property of the newspaper and can not be used in other publications or personal usage, without the written consent of the general manager, unless the client has purchased the composition of such ad. © 1994 THE PORTLAND OBSERVER. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. REPRODUCTION IN WHOLE OR IN PART WITHOUT PERMISSION IS PROHIBITED.

Subscriptions: \$30.00 per year.

The Portland Observer--Oregon's Oldest African-American Publication--is a member of the National Newspaper Association--Founded in 1885, and The National Advertising Representative Amalgamated Publishers, Inc, New York, NY, and The West Coast Black Publishers Association • Serving Portland and Vancouver