

# NATIONAL

## Jackson Cloud Hangs Over Clinton

As President Clinton's reelection prospects brighten, a political threat from the left hangs over his future - the prospect of a presidential run by civil rights leader Jesse Jackson.

Now 54, Jackson is an inspiring but polarizing figure who ran unsuccessfully for the White House in 1984 and 1988 as a Democrat. This time, he says he is considering running as an independent.

Even if the charismatic black leader only took 5 percent of the popular vote away from Clinton, political analysts and Democratic strategists believe that could be fatal for the president in what is expected to be a close race

against the Republican nominee.

In a wide-ranging interview last week, Jackson freely expressed his frustrations with what he sees as a string of broken promises by Clinton.

"We were promised by Mr. Clinton an economic stimulus, a plan to reinvest in the cities - there's been no plan to reinvent or reinvest. The only plan for our youth is to lock them up in historical numbers," he said.

"I supported Bill Clinton for president in 1992," Jackson said. "He put forward some very strong promises for our cities. He promised not a child (should go) to waste and yet, what do we see?"

Jackson rejects the notion

that he would be responsible for putting a Republican in the White House if he ran as an independent. "If I were to run, I would run to win," he said.

He believes he would inspire large numbers of disaffected citizens to register to vote, which could help the Democrats regain control of Congress even if they lost the White House. Most of all, he believes his candidacy would force Clinton to address issues he is currently ignoring.

"If my not running would help assure his victory and my running would assure his defeat, therefore we are part of this equation, are we not? And if we are part of the equation, we must be

at the table to discuss direction and priorities. That becomes critical," Jackson said.

Jackson was pleased last month when Clinton backed affirmative action programs that seek to help minorities and women in work and education, but he is pressing for more.

He knows that as long as his candidacy is a viable threat, Clinton cannot afford to ignore him. He is therefore likely to prolong the suspense as long as possible.

He could delay a decision to run as a Democrat until next December. If he were to run as an independent, he could wait as long as May or June 1996 before

making up his mind.

Jackson believes he could have the same electrifying effect as he did in previous campaigns, when he generated huge fervor on the campaign trail, won several state primaries and pushed the Democratic Party to the left - a factor that may have contributed to its defeat in 1984 and 1988.

He also polarized opinion between blacks and whites and provoked a backlash from Jewish voters after describing New York City as "Hymietown."

Some black leaders who supported his previous campaigns may not be eager to do so this time with a Democrat in the White House.

Behind Jackson's words lies an abiding anger at the ever-worsening plight of the mainly black underclass in America's decaying inner cities as well as a deep frustration at the country's political swing to the right.

Jackson, a Christian minister who began his career as a young lieutenant of the Rev. Martin Luther King, has nothing but scorn for the Christian Coalition, a powerful force for social conservatism in the Republican Party.

"For 250 years when we were in slavery, the white Christian church backed slavery. It endorsed segregation after slavery. Now they don't put forward any remedy to offset the lasting impact of racism," he said.

## James V. Burks:

### Father Of The African Marketplace In America

BY FRED BEAUFORD

Pick up any black newspaper these days and you will almost always find something in there about an African Marketplace. These outdoor markets have become extremely popular in the Black community in recent years, and are springing up everywhere in the country.

There is obviously something about shopping outdoors which appeals to not only Black people, but people of all races. But who was the first one to have the insight to uncover this intriguing cultural fact and to make it work for the betterment of the community? The leading candidate is a soft spoken man in Los Angeles named James V. Burks. He started the granddaddy of all American African Marketplaces, the world famous Los Angeles African Marketplace and Cultural Faire in the back yard! Three hundred people showed up the first year. Last year, some nine years later, the back yard had long been history, and over half a million people passed through the three weekend affair at Los Angeles' Rancho Cienega Park.

"It is really quite simple," Mr. Burks explained from his City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department office. "Africa and descendant African cultures are warm, and have a long history of doing business in outside environments." Mr. Burks smiled a quick sly smile. Of course it was "as simple as that," but we knew that there was much more to it. The African Marketplace and Cultural Faire is an interesting blend of entertainment, arts, crafts, food, merchandise, and environmental design. What makes it work so well is that none of the many ingredients overshadow the other.

All of this is no accident, according to Burks. "This is an eco-

nomonic development project, first and foremost, and not simply an arts festival. What we proposed in the initial years and now, is a permanent year-round business, a real place of destination for tourist from all over the world, just like a Six Flags, a Disneyland, a Chinatown, or a Knotts Berry Farm.

"Tourism is the second largest industry in the world. Tourist bring money into communities, instill self



James V. Burks:

esteem, and revitalize cities. Black people in America and the world over need to get in on the action and actively promote 'cultural tourism'. On a national scale prominent magazines that trace tourism have noted recently that Black Americans have an aggregate impact of 45 billion dollars on the domestic tourism industry. To take advantage of the thousands of black and non-black conventions and conferences that visit Los Angeles I started this African Marketplace. It serves as a real life training ground to show members of our community how to engage in entrepreneurship, how to create jobs, how to wed the arts with business, and just as important, how to teach the world the richness and beauty of

African culture and the related cultures of the African Diaspora," Burks said.

Burks is now well connected with many important business and government officials on both the African continent and in the Diaspora and, with the edition of the concept on a November ballot measure, is only a few years away from establishing the Los Angeles Marketplace and Cultural Faire as a permanent year-round "point of destination."

"The economy is global," he said, "and we are tapping into it. And on a local, but just as important level, we are making people in South Central Los Angeles feel good about where they live. When people feel good about their community, it draws others to them, and everyone prospers."

Stereotypes of inner city communities have unfortunately caused others to look elsewhere for enterprising business opportunities.

The ideal approach is to refocus the enthusiasm internally and create a sense of pride within the constituents of these communities whereupon they can capitalize on the lucrative tourism industry.

Mr. Burks has served as a keynote speaker for UNESCO in Sweden, for the Canadian Department of Heritage, and at the National Black Festival Producers Conference. His ideas are innovative and he is now offering his expertise to other people anywhere in the country to set up similar African Marketplaces. He has put together a carefully thought out presentation which he is offering to groups, government agencies and individuals.

Those interested in obtaining more information about the African Marketplace should telephone (213) 237-1540.

## Congratulates New President!



Fred Canady, Director of Pepsi-Cola Company's Minority Business Enterprise Development program, congratulates Dorothy R. Leavell, recently-elected President of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), during the NNPA's convention in Oklahoma City, Okla. Ms. Leavell is Publisher and Editor of the Chicago Crusader and the Gary (Indiana) Crusader. Canady, who assumed responsibility for Pepsi's MBED program in January, 1995, is currently visiting Pepsi's minority vendors and other constituent groups around the country. Since the inception of the MBED program in 1982, Pepsi has spent more than \$700 million with minority vendors.

## Three Indicted In Oklahoma City Bombing

U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno announced Thursday that two people, including Timothy McVeigh, have been indicted for the bombing of the federal office building in Oklahoma City on April 19.

Investigators believe McVeigh, 27, drove the truckload of explosives that devastated the Alfred Murrah building in Oklahoma City, killing at least 167 people.

The other person indicted for the bombing was McVeigh's former Army buddy Terry Nichols, 40. Separately, Michael Fortier, 26, was indicted for knowing of the plan but

concealing his knowledge from investigators.

Reno told a news conference the indictment against McVeigh and Nichols included 11 counts. The first three counts, she said, were for conspiring to "use a weapon of mass destruction" to kill people and for malicious destruction of federal property.

The remaining eight counts were for the killing of the eight law enforcement officers who died in the blast, the worst such attack in U.S. history. The two men could be sentenced to death if convicted.

Fortier, whose lawyer said his client had agreed to testify in return for being charged with lesser offenses, was charged with four crimes, including several weapons offenses. He faces a maximum of 23 years in prison. The indictments were returned by a federal grand jury in Oklahoma City.

Reno said charges previously lodged against Nichols' brother James for possession of "illegal destructive devices" were being dropped. The attorney general said the investigation into the bombing would continue.

## Packwood: 'Welfare Should Be A Trampoline, Not A Hammock'

Oregon Senator Bob Packwood opened the historic debate on welfare in the Senate by calling for an end to the traditional federal role in welfare and replacing it with state-administered programs that are responsive to the special needs and conditions of individual states.

Noting that welfare was originally conceived in 1935 as a program of "emergency financial support for widows and orphans," Senator Packwood said today's welfare system has grown into a tradition of "lifetime, even generational, support" for millions of recipients.

"Welfare, as the federal government hoped it would work, would be a trampoline—people would spring back to work. Instead of a trampoline, it has become a hammock and it is not working at all," Senator Packwood said.

Senator Packwood added that the current welfare debate could be summed up by the question: "do you prefer the federal government to fund

and administer the welfare programs and food stamp programs, or...do you say the federal government has failed to make the programs work?"

Senator Packwood said he clearly believes the latter. In constant dollars, welfare spending in the U.S. has grown from the equivalent of \$10 billion in 1947 to \$180 billion in 1991.

"In terms of money, we have spent it in spades, and it has not solved the problem," Senator Packwood said. He added that a totally new approach to welfare is needed, not just changing a few things here or there.

"It's like a hippopotamus. No matter how long you stretch its ears, or screw up its tail, you won't get it to fly," Senator Packwood said.

Senator Packwood outlined the new approach he prefers, S. 1120, The Work Opportunity Act of 1995.

The bill consolidates seven federally-administered, cash-assistance programs (called Aid to Families with

Dependent Children) and block grants them directly to the states.

The bill requires that welfare recipients go to work in two years, or earlier at a state's option. Welfare recipients would only be eligible to be on welfare for a maximum of five years.

By the year 2000, 50 percent of a state's welfare recipients must be in jobs or job training programs. States also have the option to take their federal food stamps in a cash block grant.

Eligibility for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) would also be modified under S.1120. Drug addicts and alcoholics would no longer qualify for SSI cash payments, nor would non-citizens. The bill also tightens eligibility requirements for SSI payments for disabled children.

child support enforcement would also be toughened under the bill, making it easier to track down and force deadbeat parents to pay child support.

## Tightened Security Hits Airports

U.S. airports and airlines were tightening security following an order by federal authorities concerned about possible terror attacks against the United States.

U.S. Transportation Secretary Federico Pena said in a statement that no specific threats have been made but "it is prudent to ensure that these additional measures are in place to prevent or deter possible criminal or terrorist acts."

Department of Transportation officials declined to discuss the reasons behind the heightened security alert but Pena said the increase in security was based on information provided by federal law enforcement and intelligence agencies.

The Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas has warned President Clinton of "grave consequences" for detaining one of its leading figures pending a formal extradition request from Israel. Israel wants to try the

man, detained in New York on July 25, for terrorism and conspiracy to commit murder.

Other possible security threats could include spillover from the Bosnia war. Clinton has threatened to veto legislation being debated in Congress to lift unilaterally the arms embargo against the Bosnian Muslims.

The Washington Post listed Pope John Paul II's visit to the United States in October as another possible focus for the security alert. Air Transport Association spokesman Chris Chiamas said there was no reason for passengers to panic and expressed concern that the Federal Aviation Administration directive being distributed to airports, airlines and federal security forces might needlessly scare travelers.

"No specific threat against U.S. airlines or U.S. airports has been communicated to the industry through

the FAA," Chiamas told a news conference. He said many of the increased security measures will not be noticed by travelers although the association has asked passengers to cooperate to help prevent airport delays during the peak summer travel season.

The association suggested that air passengers arrive at airports earlier, refuse to carry items for strangers and keep close watch on their luggage.

Chiamas said the industry does not anticipate delays but is relying on travelers being prepared. In June, the FAA issued a security alert for California airports following a threat from the so-called "Unabomber" who has killed three people and injured 22 in 16 attacks since 1978.

Other transportation industries are also being asked to review their security measures, Pena said.