

BLACK POWER ON THE ROCKS

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CHARGE BLACK POWER PROPAGATION HARMFUL

Powell Warns Of Misuse

NEW YORK - (NPI)--"Black power" appeared to be ready for the civil rights scrapheap, as Bayard Rustin charged that the concept's propagation is "harmful" and moderate civil rights leaders considered disowning the "black power" bloc altogether.

AT THE same time, Rep. Adam Clayton Powell (D-N.Y.) cautioned that black power can have no truck with violence, and Chicago Daily Defender, in a poll of ghetto residents, revealed that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was a seven-to-one favorite as a Negro leader over black-power spokesman Stokely Carmichael.

Rustin, executive director, A. Philip Randolph institute and a rights leader of long standing, asserted that "black power" lacks "any real value for the civil rights movement." In an article in Commentary magazine, Rustin charged that the black power slogan "diverts the movement from a meaningful debate over strategy and tactics, it isolates the Negro community, and it encourages the growth of anti-Negro forces."

RUSTIN TOOK issue with SNCC's Black Panther perspective, charging that it "would give priority to the issue of race precisely at a time when the fundamental issues facing the Negro and American society alike are economic and social." The rights leader saw a "better alternative": a liberal-labor civil rights coalition which would "work to make the Democratic party truly responsive to the aspirations of the poor."

Rustin charged that the "new militant leadership, by raising the slogan of black power and lowering the banner of non-violence, has obscured the moral issue facing the nation and permitted the President and Vice President to lecture us about 'racism in reverse' instead of propagating more meaningful programs for dealing with the problems of unemployment, housing, and education."

The "no-win" policy lying behind the SLOGAN of "black power" does the Negro no service, Rustin, said. During the Meredith march in Mississippi, SNCC and CORE members shouted a "black power" slogan that may have afforded them a momentary satisfaction, he said. But that slogan "is calculated to destroy them and their movement." The rights leader noted, on the other hand, that "it is the business of those who reject the negative aspects of 'black power' not to preach but to act."

MEANWHILE, moderate Negro leaders announced issuance of a manifesto disowning proponents of black power. "Black power is a menace to racial peace and prosperity," said A. Philip Randolph, president, AFL-CIO Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, who confirmed that the leaders were conferring on splitting with the black power forces. "No Negro who is fighting for civil rights can support black power, which is opposed to civil rights and integration," Randolph added.

Meeting with him are Dr. King, president, Southern Christian Leadership Conference; Roy Wilkins, executive director, NAACP; Whitney M. Young, Jr., National Urban League executive director; and Dorothy Height, president, National Council of Negro Women.

DR. KING has been quoted as saying SCLC would meet to determine whether his organization and the black power groups are so "diametrically opposite" that they can't work

SAWYER BANDWAGON ROLLS



Patricia Wynn (shaking hands with Governor Sawyer), E. Peter Lewis, and Myrtle Banks comprised an unofficial 'Welcome Committee' to Governor Grant Sawyer and his party as they arrived at the "Volunteer Workers for the Re-election of Governor Sawyer" headquarters at 1305 'D' Street, last Thursday... Slightly rear of the Governor, is U.S. Senator Howard Cannon.

together.

At the same time, Rep. Powell charged that Carmichael, head of SNCC, was using the "black power" slogan to incite violence. He called Carmichael's "black power" concept a "fuse for rebellion in America's cities."

"Black power is the brain power that admonishes, instead of 'Burn, baby, burn,' we should be shouting, 'Learn, baby, learn,'" Powell said.

"After years and years of rioting, black people should realize by now, that when we burn up a neighborhood dry-cleaner in a riot or rebellion, we are burning our own clothes."

Meanwhile, a survey by the Chicago Daily Defender showed Dr. King to be the favorite Negro leader of that city's Negro population. According to the survey, more than 70 per cent of those polled said Dr. King was the man they would choose as their civil rights spokesman.

THIS COMPARED with about 10 per cent for Carmichael, 10 per cent for Elijah Muhammad, leader of the Black Muslims, and four per cent for Dr. J. H. Jackson, president, National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc. Carmichael, who is in his mid-20's was most popular among younger voters in the poll.

"Black power" oddly has attracted support among some whites, while being vigorously denounced by certain Negro leaders. U.S. Education Commissioner Harold Howe II has said that "black power" could be a "useful concept if it is defined as demanding a rightful place for the Negro American in our national sun."

William Stringfellow, a white author and theologian, has welcomed "black power" as "the first challenge there has been to white supremacy." And David Danzig, Columbia University School of Social Work professor, has hailed "black power" as "an intelligent response to the realities of American life. "This effort to encourage Negroes to see themselves as a power bloc, and to act as one, is entirely in keeping with American minority politics," said Danzig, writing in Commentary magazine.

MEANWHILE, "black power" continued to be denounced by rights leaders such as Dr. King and Wilkins.

Dr. Martin D. Jenkins, president, Morgan State College, Baltimore, found the concept "stupid" and declared that "black racism is no more palatable than white racism."



Some several hundred citizens of West Las Vegas have, within the past week, volunteered their time and enthusiasm to the 'grass roots workers' campaign to aid the re-election of Governor Grant Sawyer. In top photo, Governor Sawyer is assured that "Martin is here--on the right side--your side".... Above, Annie P. O'Neal, a dedicated Sawyer worker; holds her campaign talk a moment while the Governor is introduced to one of the favorite Senior Citizen Council members, Mrs. Mary V. Smith.

Patricia Wynn, who has accepted the responsibility of managing the Volunteer's office, stated that "so much was done in so little time" by so many wonderful people to get the campaign headquarters open and that there are so many acknowledgements to be made for the generous donations to make the opening a success, that she must be given another week, at least, to compile a public appreciation expression in behalf of the volunteers.

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