

# EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

## The Counterfeit Traitor



By LAWRENCE ALBERT

Some weeks have passed and the black community has not been told what happened to the five thousand dollars which was given to Lonie Chaney and the Sunrise Travel Club by the Convention Authority to transport Nevada's Miss Black Teenage Pageant winner and supporters to South Carolina. The black community would like to know.

It was Mr. Chaney, a few months ago who chastised those elected officials who would not go along with the Mayor's program on economic development in the black community. Chaney stated, in part, at that time that it should be the responsibility of elected officials to lead the people because they were elected.

While we may tend to agree with that statement, we point out that leadership carries with it a high responsibility of trust. In order to have and maintain that trust we must be fair in our dealings with the people. This trust is always demanded when we are handling the public's money.

We can not allow any one in this community to exploit our people by illegitimate means. If someone is going to take advantage of our desires, fears, hope or just plain being ourselves, it is going to be done aboveboard. We don't want to adopt the tactics among ourselves which have been used upon us by the white community in the past. If a guy wants to make him a little money, let it be done in such a way that will not reflect upon the black community. But when one tinkers with the Convention Authority money - that's public money, and would have some bearing upon the black community as a source that would become closed to other members in the community for other worthy causes.

What is so difficult about explaining how five thousand dollars was spent? All one would have to do is say 'I spend so much for gas, so much for bus depreciation and so much went for profit.' What is so difficult about that?

Since many weeks have passed, it is our belief that Lonie Chaney feels that he does not have to account to anyone. Is it that Lonie Chaney, feels secure enough in his position of state assemblyman that he doesn't have to account to anyone? As evidence by the appearance that Mr. Chaney is supporting Bob Bailey against Senator Neal, we assume this to be correct. The community does not need such a representative.

The Las Vegas Voice Publisher demands that some account be made of the five thousand dollars. The Convention Authority and Lonie Chaney should be made to report to the community how the money was spent. It seems as if Lonie Chaney or Marion Bennett want to rip off the black community. It's o.k. we understand that.

I strongly urge the people to cast their vote in the right direction on election day so that we can have people in office who care about the interests of the community.

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## BUSINESS IN THE BLACK

by Charles E. Belle

### An American

#### Approach To Equality

The railroads made a mistake by identifying their business as the train business instead of the transportation industry. This opened the road to the trucking and airlines to provide for passengers and cargo taxing.

In discussing the distinct advantage of high paying positions of corporate executives over unemployed black people, one of my previous columns implied Albert V. Casey, president of American Airlines, received a 10 percent raise to \$220,000 "while that company lost \$21 million for the year."

Richard R. Tyler an official of American Airlines wrote to inform me that "Mr. Casey has not had a pay increase since he joined the airlines." Mr. Tyler's letter did not mention how much stock or what type stock options were given to poor Mr. Casey to drag him away from Times-Mirror Company where he was the president at an even higher salary.

American Airlines is certainly one of the leading transportation companies in the world. An aviator named Charles A. Lindbergh with his first regularly scheduled mail-only flight pointed a new direction in transportation in 1926.

Today American Airlines celebrates its 50th year in the flying business. Its employees numbered 34,886 by the end of last year. Mr. Tyler, however, failed to mention the minority make-up of the American Airlines' family.

The company has not yet seen fit to place either a black or a woman on its board of directors. In fact, not one of its top 50 officers is either a black male or a female. There is hope that this national service airline, which extends into the dark caribbean islands of Aruba and Barbados, will recognize black people.

The number of employees was down by year end 1975, from year's end 1974, which was down from 1973. Before the recession rumor's had it that American Airlines employed black pilots, stewards and reservation agents in good numbers.

It would be interesting to compare the growth in black air travel on American Airlines with its blacks employment since 1973, its high point of total hiring. Perhaps my mail box will be stuffed with elaborate statistics revealing that blacks had in fact achieved equality at American Airlines.

Actually, a few simple reports on management policy indicating they bank with black banks, reinsure with black insurance companies and have a minority vendors program for 12 percent of their bank balances, insurance premiums and purchase programs would do just fine for starters.

We know they are equal employers, but being equal promoters would probably turn on the presently employed blacks. Blacks could fly only on another airline until we get this little matter cleared up. But then again, maybe this is all a mistake; better check my mailbox.

## LAS VEGAS VOICE

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EDITORIAL, ADVERTISING & CIRCULATION OFFICES  
616 North "H" Street Las Vegas, Nevada 89106  
Telephone 648-2615

ADVERTISING RATES FURNISHED UPON REQUEST

Price per copy - 15¢ One year \$12.50

(Application for 2nd Class Mailing Permit pending at Las Vegas, Nevada).

# Just the Facts

With so many "ego-tripping" individuals and organizations in our midst, it comes as no surprise that this community has not made any significant progress here of late. It seems as if every person or organization wants the distinction of being 'HNIC'... Maybe it is too idealistic, or asking too much, to expect our "Leaders" to work together - for the benefit and common good of the community. With so many chiefs and no indians, it is no wonder that the entire tribe suffers.

How long have our leaders and various organizations pressed for some type of economic assistance - be it from the city, state or federal government? Just when economic assistance is right around the corner, we find ourselves being overcome by a power struggle. One group fighting another for control of funds, leaders boycotting meetings dealing with community development... will we ever be able to get it together?

Although two or three various groups were vieing for money to help develop the Westside, it would have been much more feasible had these organizations joined forces - formed a coalition and worked together for the benefit of all.


Instead, we've got folks bickering among themselves. In the meantime, nothing good or positive is being accomplished. Instead our ignorance is being flaunted...

If ever blacks are to succeed as a group, individual egos, power struggles and bickering must be done away with. Perhaps if we would but pool our resources, knowledge and common sense, we could move forward a lot farther and faster. As long as there are people or entities striving to be "HNIC," nothing will ever be accomplished; we'll be too busy fighting each other to reap the benefits of working together.

There is power in numbers. If we would stick together - for a common cause, we could get a lot more done in half the time. There would be no question as to what group represents the best interests of the black community. Now is that so hard to understand? Surely our "intelligent leaders" understand what it's all about - if they don't then it is past time for this community to seek new leaders who will understand.

If the needs of our community are not being served, then it's time we got new servants!

## Things You Should Know



*Nat*  
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