

BAYARD RUSTIN A CLEAR AND UNMISTAKABLE DIFFERENCE

More than anything else, it is the election of the president which determines whether black Americans will go forward or backward. The black struggle for equality, after making impressive gains during the nineteen-sixties, has been at a standstill for the past eight years. But this November black Americans will have a unique opportunity to get things moving in the right direction again.

The problems is that even many of the victims of present policy -- the teenager who can't find his first job, the worker who has been laid off -- are saying it doesn't make any difference who is elected. This cynicism is understandable after eight years during which government policy has seemed only to make things worse, but it couldn't be more wrong. For without the right kind of president, things will continue to get worse.

In a race that is extremely close there are clear and unmistakable differences between presidential candidates Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter. They differ not merely in style and personality, but in their approach to the basic issues confronting the nation. On every important issue -- from the cities to taxes to health care -- Carter is obviously superior.

President Ford is running on a record which deserves to be thoroughly repudiated. His platform flaunts an ultra-conservatism and disregard for human problems that was out-dated when it was the creed of Calvin Coolidge and Herbert Hoover.

Ford's election would mean the continuation of policies initiated under Richard Nixon that have been disastrous for all working Americans, and especially for blacks. Nearly eight million Americans are unemployed, two-and-a-half million more than when Ford assumed office. And there is little hope of improvement given present policies. In the last year alone, the number of Americans living in poverty increased by more than two million. Since 1970 black unemployment has averaged more than

10 percent. Today nearly one out of seven black workers can't find a job. The gap between black and white income which was narrowing in the sixties is growing again. The average black family is worse off than it was six years ago.

It would be bad enough if Ford had simply followed a wrong course of economic action. But what is worse is that he seems totally oblivious to the human and social cost of unemployment. Rather than being a leader in civil rights, Ford has attempted to exploit racial tensions for political advantage. Overall, this performance has been dismal. He has substituted obstructionism for program. He has shown no capacity for the imagination and vision needed to inspire and unite the American people.

In contrast to Ford's insensitivity and lack of sympathy for the poor and unemployed, Jimmy Carter offers compassion and understanding. Carter forged an admirable and courageous civil rights record as governor of Georgia. He promises to be a dynamic and aggressive president who can work effectively with Congress to pass much need legislation.

Blacks have responded with enthusiasm to the candidacy of Jimmy Carter. He involved blacks in important positions in his campaign from its earliest days not as tokenism, but as a reflection of his basic commitment to racial justice. He has put forward a program that is responsive to the needs of black Americans.

The choice has rarely been clearer, but the outcome is uncertain. Black voters are potentially the decisive factor on November 2. If blacks had voted in the same proportion as whites in 1968, Hubert Humphrey would have been elected president. With so much at stake, blacks cannot afford to stay home this time. Political apathy which rewards our enemies and punishes our friends hurts black Americans most of all.

Jimmy Carter deserves our support on Nov. 2, because black Americans need a friend in the White House.

Community Schools

Creative Writing, Typing, Sewing and many Dance classes are being offered by both the Charleston Heights and Baker Park Community School/Recreation Centers.

Registration times & dates for both locations are Monday - Friday 2:00 - 9:00 p.m. October 25 - November 5. Charleston Heights is located in Room 78 of Garside Junior High, and Baker Park is located in Room 103 of the Fremont Junior High.

Both of these Community School/Recreation Centers are sponsored by the Las Vegas Cultural Services Department, Recreation Division.

Christmas Crafts

The Las Vegas Cultural Services Department Recreation Division's New Baker Park Community School/Recreation Center is offering a wide variety of Recreational Classes.

Christmas Crafts, Ceramics, tin crafts, landscape oils, applique' & patch work, and Japanese Embroidery are just a few of the over 70 classes offered.

You may register through Nov. 5, Monday - Friday, 2:00 - 9:00 p.m. at the Fremont Junior High, 110 E. St. Louis.

For information call 733-6599.

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR A NEW FIXED BASE OPERATION AT MC CARRAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA, owner and operator of McCarran International Airport, will issue a Request for Proposals from interested parties for a full service fixed base operator who will provide primary and secondary commercial support services for general aviation or other types of aircraft. The initial operation will contain, at a minimum, aircraft fueling, servicing, maintenance and tie-downs for general aviation or corporate aircraft.

ON NOVEMBER 10, 1976, the Clark County Department of Aviation will hold a briefing and information meeting and tour of the proposed fixed base operation site for all interested parties. The Request for Proposal package containing the details of this project will be available on that date.

INTERESTED PERSONS, FIRMS OR CORPORATIONS who wish to obtain information concerning the November 10th meeting, tour and Request for Proposal package should contact the Airport Business Manager of the Clark County Department of Aviation, McCarran International Airport, P.O. Box 11005, Airport Station, Las Vegas, Nevada 89111. Telephone: (702) 739-5211.

8% increase in va payments

Some 2.2 million veterans receiving compensation for service-connected disabilities from the Veterans Administration will receive an 8% increase in their monthly payments as a result of legislation signed into law September 30 by President Ford.

The 8% increase in monthly rates also was extended to nearly 320,000 surviving spouses and children receiving dependency and indemnity compensation from the VA. These payments go to eligible survivors of veterans who died on active duty or from service-connected causes. Rates range from \$260 to \$664, based on the veteran's military grade at the time of his death.

The increases are effective October 1 and will be reflected for the first time in checks received November 1, a VA spokesman said.

The President's action also expanded a number of other VA benefits for disabled veterans.

An annual clothing allowance paid to disabled veterans was increased \$15 to \$190 under the new law. Almost 52,000 service-disabled veterans, requiring use of prosthetic or orthopedic appliances, qualify for the allowance to offset expenses incurred in wear and tear of clothing. The increase will be reflected for the first time in allowances paid September 1, 1977.

Eligibility for the one-time allowance of not more than \$3,300 toward purchase of an automobile was extended to certain disabled veterans with military service after September 15, 1940. Previously, eligibility was limited only to those who served after December 6, 1941.

The new law also increased the maximum limit on mortgage protection life insurance from \$30,000 to \$40,000 for disabled veterans who receive grants for specially adapted housing.

Additional payments of up to \$78 monthly was authorized for eligible veterans who receive compensation allowances for a spouse, if the latter requires aid and attendance or is a patient in a nursing home.

Burial benefits were expanded to permit reimbursement for cost of transportation, to the nearest national cemetery, of the remains of veterans who died of service-connected causes.

The increased benefits for disabled veterans are estimated to cost \$400 million in fiscal year 1977.

Bernstein and Watergate

Carl Bernstein, the Washington Post reporter who uncovered the controversial Watergate case in the early 1970's, will be guest speaker at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas on Tuesday, Nov. 9.

Bernstein will lecture at 8 p.m. in the ballroom of the UNLV Student Union. Admission will be charged. Tickets are on sale now at the Union Information Booth.

Bernstein is co-author of "All the President's Men" and "The Final Days." He and reporter Bob Woodward were instrumental in uncovering the break-in at the Democratic Headquarters (Watergate) in 1972. The case eventually led to the resignation of former President Richard M. Nixon. Bernstein and Woodward's investigation was depicted in the recent motion picture "All the President's Men." Dustin Hoffman played the part of Bernstein.

The lecture is presented by the Consolidated Students of UNLV.

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