



*Congressional
Black Caucus
Reports to the
People*

Why is it that most Black Americans are just now becoming really involved in developing cultural and historical ties with Africa? Is it because they knew little about the continent except from those movies which gave us false images that were not intended to inspire respect about our heritage? Or is it because we have had so much to do climbing up the socio-economic ladders that we have had little time for anything else?

Whatever the reason, it seems that the necessity of concentrating on the present and the future, has caused us to sorely neglect the past; and to in that vein, overlook our heritage and ignore what should be our obligation to be concerned about the well-being of our counterparts who just happen to still live on that continent surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean, the Indian Ocean, the Red Sea and the Mediterranean.

Alex Haley, in describing this separation between Black Americans and Black Africans, has been most persuasive in urging us to develop a relationship, not only with our African past, but with the African present:

... the African people and the black people who are descendents of the African people now living in other places should become far more aware of each other. They must know each other, feel each other, be more concerned about each other and respond mutually back and forth to each other much more than we tend to ...

What can be done on the part of Black Americans to establish closer ties with Black Africans?

First of all, and on the individual level, we Afro-Americans must increase our very low level of investment in African business enterprises. Africa has many valuable resources which are coming increasingly under the control of the majority.

With the help of Black Americans, United States capital and technology can be made available to help Africa develop its own economic potential and concomitantly strengthen the natural bonds between Africans and Afro-Americans.

Secondly, we must move from the fiscal ties to a more physical bond; low-cost tourism to Africa should be encouraged so that Black Americans of moderate means can search for their heritage and roots. The African continent is enormous. One must travel to it to appreciate both its size and diversity.

Public and private programs for the exchange of black students, scholars, athletes and artists should be expanded and developed. In addition a greater effort should be made to recruit American blacks for responsible work in the Peace Corps and the Agency for International Development in African countries.

The exercise of valuable skills in a new environment will enable us to better serve the black community at home. In short, American blacks should learn to use existing institutions, such as the Congress, the African-American Institute, our colleges and universities, etc., to find their way back to Africa.

There are many areas of endeavor where young, trained Black Americans could substantially aid in the development of African countries. Engineers, urban planners and architects on the designing end of the spectrum, followed up by bricklayers, steel works and plumbers on the construction of new urban and industrial projects are just a few examples.

The enormous job of establishing modern communication and transportation links across dry plains, over rugged mountains and deep into the bush areas will take at least as much effort as bridging the gaps between over 300 ethnic groups and, formed rather recently, in a historical sense, the 50-odd political units we know as modern Africa.

Industrial development, commercial expansion, agricultural modernization, mineral extraction and processing, and the harnessing of rivers for hydro-electric power generation are just some of the areas where the Agency for International Development and the Peace Corps can use the skills of American blacks to build strong positive bonds of friendship and international cooperation between the African states and the U.S. Economic assistance by this country to African countries when coupled with the sensitivity of using black skills and labor would go a long way toward demonstrating to the Africans and the rest of the world that we truly care about their economic growth.

*The Las Vegas Voice
has IMPACT!*

Executive Auto Leasing & Sales Summer Special

EXECUTIVE AUTO DETAIL
5115 INDUSTRIAL ROAD, SUITE 513 LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 736-8455

COMPLETE DETAIL INSIDE & OUT

- COMPOUND SIMONIZE, WAX
- SHAMPOO CARPETS
- RESTORE VINYL TOP
- WHEELS
- TRUNK

\$39⁹⁵

COMPLETE ENGINE DETAIL,
INCLUDES PAINTING, \$17.50

FREE PICK UP & DELIVERY —

COMPLETE AUTO DETAILING

INSIDE & OUT INCLUDES

Hand wax exterior
Shampoo carpet &
upholstery
Dress vinyl top &
tires
A thorough cleaning
inside & out

\$39.95

Steam Clean
& Paint Engine

\$17.50

VINYL TOP RECOLORING

\$34⁹⁵

FREE PICK UP &
DELIVERY
(Las Vegas
Area Only)

736-8455
EXECUTIVE AUTO
LEASING DETAIL
SHOP

SAME DAY

4 HOUR SERVICE

**DON'T
TRADE
OR
SELL**

**YOUR CAR
before you see
US**

We can get you
up to 80% more
for your car

**LEASE
YOUR CAR.
FROM
EXECUTIVE AUTO LEASING
ON
NEW & USED
CARS**

WE CARRY A COMPLETE
LINE OF USED CARS FOR
YOUR SELECTION

CREDIT NO PROBLEM
WE CARRY OUR OWN
PAPER