

**"Call It
Black Male"**

by ROOSEVELT FITZGERALD



ANCIENT AFRICA: IN TRANSITION

It's not the size that counts. Its how it is used. Don't get excited -- not yet anyway. The subject of discussion in the world. When we started this series several months ago we attempted to examine the origin of man. This naturally took us several millions of years into the past. We considered the findings of the British anthropological team of Drs. Mary and Louis Leakey and others. The world, in the beginning, was small-not in size but in area known about or travelled. To go from Olduvai Gorge to the lake or to the mountain took considerable time. As people migrated beyond this immediate area the world, in effect, became larger and larger in direct proportion to this travel and exploration.

We have seen from our examination of Africa from the "Gorge" down the Nile, across North Africa, the Sahara Desert to Timbuctu and on into the rain forests that its geography covers everything except arctic conditions. The people are equally diverse. In size color the African ranges from the very dark Nubian to the much lighter Mediterranean types and Kushites. We have also seen that in the numerous cultures and civilizations of ancient African kingdoms numerous occupations were to be had. There were Africans who were pharaohs, queens, kings, priests, framers, traders, thieves, slavers, shop keepers and all of the other occupations there were.

Africa and Africans have been involved in the panorama of the history of the world from the very beginning. The challenges which have had to be coped with by people the world over has been also directed toward Africa. From securing food, withstanding the elements to the thousand conflicts arising between groups of people through competition, jealousies or military encroachments we find similarities. There has been the disease which we've talked about in earlier issues. Africans have also met these and have conquered them. At first there were the not so practical or effective remedies. Through trial and error cures were developed. Though it was not on the order of Johns Hopkins a medical school, attended by students from throughout the ancient world, was founded at Timbuctu.

The traders and caravans brought Africans in touch with each other and also with other places and people. The isolation which has been suggested in the past was non-existent. The trials and tribulations of Africans made and broke them as they did other groups in other places. There were pacifists and militarists in Africa. Farmers, warriors, the innocent and the damned, winners and losers all could be found here in the same kinds of representation which might be found in other cultures and civilizations around the world. There were no real differences to be found. Africans were not assigned a position in life or society as a result of their skin color. The records of the ancients attest to this fact.

As we approach the pivotal point in time which carried us out of ancient history to the "Dark" ages the development of African cultures began to fossilize. The perception of the African, along with most other groups of people began to deteriorate. Where before they were only Egyptians, Kushites, Sumerians, Greeks, Romans, Pehonicians and the like -- people now became either Christians or heathens. As the tenets of the new religion developed so too did the perception of different groups of people evolve accordingly.

Colors began to take on added significance. Black, red, yellow and all of the rest began to adopt psychological and attitudinal definitions. We will see what some of these were and how they were used in upcoming issues.

NEWS

NEWS

BESIDE WEDDING AT SUNRISE HOSPITAL

Steven Barnes and Vicky Hoyungowa were married earlier this week during a very emotional ceremony that took place from a bed at the Sunrise Hospital. Tragedy struck the young couple June 16 when Vicky was seriously injured in an automobile accident which will leave her confined to a wheelchair for the rest of her life. Barnes, a young 23 year old sergeant out at Nellis Air Force Base summed up the very touching day by simply saying, "We love each other and we'll have a happy life together."

FOOD STAMP VOTE DELAYED:

The House of Representatives in Washington on Thursday, delayed until after the July 4 congressional recess a vote on a proposal to increase authorized food stamp spending. The measure intended to prevent foodstamp cutbacks this summer and fall had been scheduled for a vote Thursday, but was removed from the agenda following a lengthy debate on the windfall profits tax bill.

REP. LOUIS STOKES EXCUSES---BUT?

Rep. Louis Stokes, D-Ohio, said earlier this week he is satisfied the CIA did not direct one of its employees to rifle secret files of his House Assassinations Committee which contained explicit autopsy photos of John F. Kennedy. However Stokes said in a House speech that the committee is not satisfied that the employee acted from mere curiosity as a CIA INVESTIGATION concluded.

LIVING IN SIN IS NO ALIMONY THREAT

A woman can continue to receive alimony from her ex-husband even if she starts living with another man, the Nevada Supreme Court ruled last Thursday.

Rep. James Santini, D-Nev., said Congress will probably pass legislation within 18 months setting up procedures to reimburse victims of nuclear test radiation. Santini who is the Chairman of a House Oversight Committee met with his group in order to find ways to speed up federal funding of a proposed study of harmful effects on Nevadans from nuclear testing.

The same battling character that has made Jerry Tarkanian a respected and successful basketball coach was responsible for his decision earlier this to turn down an offer to coach the Los Angeles Lakers and remain at the University of Nevada Las Vegas.

**The
Hughes
Report**



BLACKS WIN ONE - THE BLACK PRESS

A landmark decision was rendered last week by the U.S. Supreme Court when it decided 5-2 that private industry could set up employment programs that favor Blacks without being afraid of "reverse discrimination" suits. A white worker, Brian F. Weber in Louisiana had charged that an on-the-job program for Black advancement had discriminated against him because he was white although he had more seniority than the Blacks who were accepted on the program in 1974. Benjamin Hooks stated "The decision would further the progress of all people in this Nation. Had we last this case, it was our prediction that the cause of affirmative action would have been set back 10 years. The AFL-CIO called the decision "A Big Victory. Justice Brennan said the civil rights law was designed to open employment opportunities to Blacks that had traditionally been closed to them.

"It would be ironic indeed if a law triggered by a nation's concern over centuries of racial injustice and intended to improve the lot of those who had been excluded from the American dream for so long constituted the first legislative prohibition of all voluntary, private, race-conscious efforts to abolish traditional patterns of racial segregation and hierarchy," Brennan's 13-page majority opinion said.

Justice William Rehnquist, in a dissent joined by Chief Justice Warren Burger, said the court's decision betrayed the spirit of "equality" for both races - in the civil rights act.

From Black monitor comes this illuminating article on the Black Press.

When the American republic was founded, those who were responsible for charting a secure path for its future recognized that without a free press there can be no free people. It was for this reason that the United States' Constitution very early sets forth what are some of the guarantees or safeguards for a free pass.

With black Americans, there must be this same thoughtful and dogged determination to guarantee, and provide for, a free press designed to undergird freedom within America for black people.

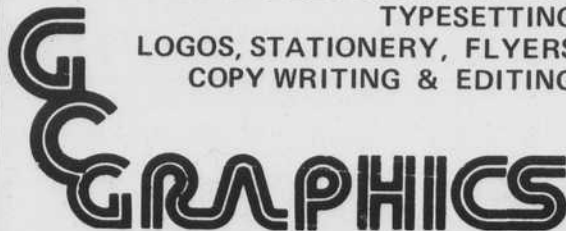
The white American founding fathers saw, in their specific time and situation, the freedom of the press as involving the unrestricted right to express opinions with which others - including those in power - may not agree. For black Americans this remains a precious right. Added to the requirements of freedom of the press for black Americans today, however, is the responsibility to guarantee the economic survival of that portion of the public press which speaks to the peculiar or particular needs which black people face.

Every black American benefits from having his or her problems and hopes for the good life in this country aired, as they have been now for centuries, by the constantly struggling black newspapers which have been the most fearless and vocal guardians of our liberties as a people. We owe to them an incalculable debt.

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK

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NEEDS
A SALESMAN**

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