

# Point of View

## Editorial

### SURPRISES NO TRICKS — NO TREATS

By Lee A. Walker

There are two treats in store for you: First, we have finally found through the research of the National Urban League study, contrary to popular belief, more than half of all poor black households do not receive general welfare assistance or aid to dependent care. Only a few use the grants for education or specific skills training.

Surprisingly, a great number of unemployed (61 percent) do not receive unemployment checks. Through pride, they tend to take on odd jobs, etc.

Another myth that should be destroyed is those who choose to or must use welfare assistance do not use all available programs.

Of course, there are reasons for the lack of use of the different

programs: (1) punitive overcast, (2) the insensitiveness of interviewers, (3) Bureaucracy, (4) lack of uniformity throughout the system and (5) pride.

Secondly, for the first time in quite a while, both blacks and whites have come together to support candidates without regard of race, religion or party affiliation. This is notable.

Those of us who live in the community should be more proud and supportive of this kind of collective community effort.

Let's exercise our right to vote on November 4 — your vote is very important toward selecting the leaders who will relate to the needs of their respective constituency. **THERE'S NO TIME TO SIT THIS ONE OUT!**

### Black Caucus Makes Election Endorsements

WASHINGTON — "We will see a strong and swift loss of civil rights gains" if Ronald Reagan becomes President, according to Cardiss Collins, chair of the Congressional Black Caucus and Illinois congresswoman.

Representative Collinsheld a press conference on the Capitol steps today with several members of the Caucus to speak as individual congressional members about Reagan's "claims of support for black people."

Addressing an audience of 30 or 40 reporters including the three major networks, Collins said blacks have to be vigilant to ensure the gains of the past 20 to 25 years are not lost, so "we can continue to gain the rights we deserve. We cannot afford to roll around in the inertia of complacency."

Congressman William Gray of Pennsylvania lambasted Governor

Reagan's advisors who he says "support apartheid in South Africa and support guerillas in Angola." Speaking about Reagan, Gray said he doesn't understand "our concerns are not only domestic, but are with our brothers and sisters in Africa."

Gray also cited Reagan for support of minority rule in Zimbabwe and support of minority rule in Namibia. Governor Reagan would react to the Afghanistan situation by blocking Cuba and intervene in Angola by sending military aid, Gray added. "This would be a disaster."

As for domestic issues, Gray said "Governor Reagan is insensitive to the needs of minorities. He has described people on unemployment as grappling young bucks looking for food stamps so they can buy a T-

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### Why He Can't Vote For Reagan

I write today about why I will not vote for Republican Ronald Reagan.

Much of the press has been irresponsible in putting a "Reagan called warmonger" headline on any suggestion that he is imprudent and so single-mindedly devoted to military power that he could leave the United States with a vast arsenal but isolated from the rest of the world.

From his record and his recent remarks I conclude that Reagan:

—Would never have stood up for a decent resolution of the Panama Canal situation but would have embroiled the United States in a disastrous effort to retain by force, an indefensible arrangement of

colonialism and racism.

—Would not have had the wisdom or political courage manifested by Richard Nixon, Henry Kissinger and Jerry Ford to admit what we all know — that Taiwan is part of China — and thus takes steps to break up the Sino-Soviet monolith forcing the Russians to post 47 military divisions on China's borders.

—Not only would not have had the guts to resist congressional pressures to stop fighting for majority rule in Zimbabwe, but would have allied himself with racist Ian Smith on the pretext that he was ensuring a supply of chromium for the United States.

I don't believe that Reagan consciously wants war with any

country. But his mindset is confrontational and the wrong kind of confrontation can be almost as devastating to this society as war.

I watched Reagan on Walter Cronkite's CBS news show Monday night, defending his notion that if the United States scuttles SALT II and moves to achieve a "superiority" in nuclear weapons, the Soviets will quickly discover that they can't buy or build as many nuclear weapons as we can, so then they'll come begging for a "genuine" arms control pact.

There are two serious flaws in this Reaganism:

1. What is "superiority," and how do you know when you've got it? How

many trillions of dollars do we spend on nuclear weapons while we wait for the Kremlin to cry "Uncle?"

2. The Soviet economy is not as strong as ours but that does not mean that as Reagan suggests "they can't keep up" if we go all out in the arms race. The Soviet regime can deny its citizens bread, housing and more in order to match us missile for missile. On the other hand, Americans are not going to give up food and fun happily so Reagan can play his game of bluff.

Now — what about the economy? I see nothing that causes me even to hope that Reagan would do better than Carter has. I don't

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### Klan Organizing "Special Forces"

## THE RISE OF THE FAR RIGHT

By Vernon E. Jordan, Jr.

It is no longer possible to neglect the rise of right-wing extremism and the threat it poses to democracy. The phenomenon is world-wide, and America is not exempt from it.

In Europe, right-wing terrorism seems to be supplanting left-wing terrorism as the immediate threat. No longer do we hear much about the Red Guards in Italy or German terrorist gangs.

Instead, we now read of neo-fascist groups emerging from the woodwork; of bombings in Bologna and Munich that killed dozens, and of murderous attacks on Jewish communities, including the bombing of a Paris synagogue.

Here at home, recent weeks have seen

widespread attacks on black people and the activities of a revived Ku Klux Klan. New accounts from places as



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far apart geographically and culturally as Rhode Island, Alabama, Utah and Buffalo document extremist outrages directed at black citizens.

One Klan group proudly announces it has "special forces" in

combat training for a race war. Other Klan contingents are marching through the same streets from which they were driven years ago by communities that would no longer stand for their brand of racism.

But it would be too easy to focus exclusively on the still-small numbers of "crazies" that feed on media publicity and perform terrorist acts.

More serious is the spread of a national mood that grants responsibility to movements that once would have been laughed off the national stage. Extremism doesn't exist in a vacuum; it needs a climate that sustains it. It has that climate in the mood of alienation and disillusionment that leads to what I call the

politics of bitterness.

One reflection of that climate is the growth of politicized religion — a heady mixture of fundamentalist gospel with extreme right-wing ideology. Such groups convert political issues into moral absolutes. Honest disagreements over real issues become a sin, and tolerance for minorities an evil.

People of strong religious convictions should, like others, participate in politics. That's far from the issue. The issue is whether such groups should be allowed to impose their version of Christianity on others; whether they should convert negotiable political differences into moral confrontations and whether their goal of "Christianizing"

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