

# Point of View

## Editorial

This week marks the twentieth anniversary of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. The assassination took place in Dallas, Tex., on Nov. 22, 1963, during his first term as president of the United States.

The tragedy of the situation was that President Kennedy was the first president to actively pursue the problems of providing equal rights for all of the citizens of the United States, and for providing concrete assistance to developing countries.

He also had proven that he was aware of the struggles of Blacks in the United States, and was in the process of doing something about them.

The assassin's bullet brought an abrupt end to the dreams of the Kennedy family for changing the moral and spiritual fiber of the United States in a positive manner. It brought an end to the age of "The New Frontier" and ushered in what was to be known as "The Great Society" advocated by President Lyndon Baines Johnson.

It was John F. Kennedy who faced up to Russia in the Cuban missile crisis. It was John F. Kennedy who showed, in several ways, that he truly cared about and would take steps to correct the indiscretions taken by many Americans against minorities. It was John F. Kennedy who seemed to care about the downtrodden in the United States and proposed laws to guarantee equal protection under the law for all Americans. We could go on and on about the different proposals advanced by John F. Kennedy to make the United States a better place in which to live, but time and space will not permit us to.

Regardless of whether we agreed or disagreed with everything Mr. Kennedy did, we must admit that Blacks were beginning to fare much better during his short administration.

The memory of John F. Kennedy and his brother, Bobby, will be with us for a long time. History will eventually tell the story of how great a man and statesman they were before their lives were snuffed out by assassins' bullets.

## To Be Equal

# THE NEW PARTNERSHIP FOR JOBS

By John E. Jacob

A new federally financed job training program recently went into effect, and private industry's large role in shaping and implementing it provides a fresh test of the viability of public-private partnerships in creating jobs for the disadvantaged.

The new program, the Job Training Partnership Act, replaced the old CETA program, but there are major differences. CETA emphasized public service jobs, but JTPA does away with them completely, stressing training instead.

Past experience shows that training

doesn't guarantee jobs, but the new industry involvement is supposed to ensure that the disad-



vantaged are trained in skills for which there is a demand. How successful that will be at a time of high unemployment is open to question. CETA, for all of its faults, did

## PEOPLE, PLACES and POLITICS

By Joe Neal



This past Tuesday was the twentieth anniversary of John Kennedy's death. It is a time when the myth is being separated from the man.

After twenty years, I can say now that John Kennedy was not my favorite among the Kennedy brothers. Robert Kennedy was my favorite. In the period which was most meaningful to me as a black man, Robert stood tall in my book for enforcing the Civil Rights laws and asking for justice for black people. In some cases where the Civil Rights law enforcement impacted upon the Kennedy presidency, Robert often had to plead with John to enforce the laws.

Robert Kennedy had compassion which allowed him to understand and grasp the meaning of the Civil Rights movement. His compassion had been gained from his extensive travel as a student in many foreign countries and the United States.

His travel in the States is believed to have formulated his thinking along with a more notable incident at the University of Virginia. Robert had encouraged the students to invite Dr. Ralph Bunche to be a guest speaker at the university. At the time the university did not permit blacks on its campus, let alone have a black such as Ralph Bunche as a guest speaker.

It is believed that the Ralph Bunche incident spurred him to act decisively in the riots of Montgomery, Alabama by sending in four hundred U.S. marshals

provide people with jobs and paychecks while supplying important public services.

The new program has some built-in barriers that are troubling. The

trainees. That means disadvantaged people who want training will have to have some means of support while they are in training. In effect, that limits the pro-

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biggest of those barriers is the cut in funding. Its budget will be barely half of the old CETA program, and the money will be spread much more thinly.

Also, there is no provision for stipends for

gram to the least disadvantaged and the most highly motivated.

The result is likely to look good in terms of statistics showing higher percentages of trainees staying with the program

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The views expressed on these editorial pages are those of the artists or authors indicated. Only the one indicated as the Sentinel-Voice editorial represents this publication.

## Letter To Editor

Dear Editor:

Again I find it necessary to address myself to the embarrassing problem of the bogus "D D degree" holders.

Many of our so-called "leading" church members have these "things." Upon investigation, you will find that they were earned through correspondence or by attending some school for as long as two weeks.

This is an affront to one who has earned two advanced degrees in universities in Arizona, California and Nevada through study and struggle.

This problem has become embarrassing and somewhat critical in some of our West Las Vegas churches.

Where are these so-called "leading" people leading us to?

Why do so many people want to be called "doctor?" Is this done to improve their image in the community, or to get larger offerings?

For some reason I hear the title "doctor" frequently used during anniversaries and appreciations.

Is the love of money the root of all evil? Does the end justify the means?

Some of our finest bus drivers and janitors are holders of "D D degrees."

If these holders are going to keep or use those "things," they should do something to improve their grammar and use of the English language in general.

The practice of awarding bogus doctorate degrees is insulting and repugnant. It is an affront to human dignity and intelligence. It's a smooth deceptive practice that should be stopped.

Our youth are questioning the authenticity of these doctorates.

Sincerely,  
George Ward

to protect Martin Luther King and the Freedom Riders. The marshals were under control of the Attorney General and did not require the approval of the President.

It was a belief of many of us in the early 1960's that Kennedy was somewhat hesitant in enforcing the Civil Rights laws or calling for passage of additional laws by Congress. I recall a meeting in which King and other Civil Rights leaders visited President Kennedy about his hesitance to act in enforcing the law or calling for additional laws from Congress. His answer was that it was not the time.

The time for Kennedy to act on Civil Rights came when the Russian Prime Minister came to the United Nations along with Castro of Cuba, who took up residency in the Theresa Hotel in Harlem. They were very critical of this country's treatment of its black population. When it became apparent that the Russian and Castro would exploit the issue of Civil Rights, he had to act. Even though John Kennedy had allowed J. Edgar Hoover to bug Martin Luther King's phone because Hoover believed that King was fornicating with white women, he was not about to allow the Russians or Cuba to take advantage of the Civil Rights issue. To prevent this, John Kennedy went to the nation by the means of a television address to speak in the cause of Civil Rights.

This was not the impetus of Robert Kennedy. He saw the treatment of blacks as inhuman and this concern spurred him into action.

Robert Kennedy even wanted to warn Martin Luther King that Hoover was bugging his phone, but John talked him out of it. Robert Kennedy was genuine in his concerns about the advancement of people of color.

Therefore, as we mourn the death of John Kennedy this week, let's not forget a true champion of Civil Rights, Robert Kennedy.