

# THE YEAR 2000..... (Continued from page 7.)

**I think these goals and the interorganizational concept of AOIP are fantastic!**

**Bettye Timmons, President  
Eta Phi Beta Sorority**

**AOIP is beyond all expectation. Black people are finally beginning to work together long term to help uplift the masses of our people.**

**Rejesta Perry, Grand Basileus  
Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority**

**We must work together as Black people to support our own and provide security and hope to those among us who are less fortunate. The focus of AOIP is truly wonderful.**

**Catherine Bozeman, President  
Gamma Phi Delta Sorority**

**With the focus of the Assault On Illiteracy Program (AOIP) largely on community-building and uniting our various efforts, strengths and talents where appropriate, the potential is tremendous. AOIP is beginning to do a magnificent job.**

**William Waters, President  
Council of Construction Professionals**

**To see Black people committed to joining hands and working together to help make life better for the majority of our people is unbelievable. AOIP is indeed a blessing to us all.**

**Calvin W. Rolark, President  
United Black Fund**

**I think that it's an excellent plan for the future for Black people to come together in a common effort in a productive way. The plan is realistic and, if followed, can make a great difference in the lives of Black people in America.**

**Lynn Beckwith  
AOIP Coordinator/Omega Psi Phi Fraternity**

**I support...1,000 percent—any program dealing with youth, uplifting and the illiteracy predicament.**

**Ronald Hampton, President  
National Black Police Officers Association**

**I feel that it is a rare opportunity to launch a massive assault on illiteracy. AOIP is worth our total commitment and support.**

**Dr. Ulysses McBride, Vice President  
Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity**

**No undertaking that the African American people have been engaged in since we have been in America that is as important to our dignity, our self-esteem and our economic welfare as is this Assault On Illiteracy Program. AOIP is a program that the Black community not only recognizes, but also is undertaking a solution. And to that I say, God bless.**

**Augustus Witherspoon  
Southeast Coordinator/Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity**

committed to stand solidly together as we were looked at, and treated as, *objects* for others to exploit and to lead as *they* saw fit. And, the statistics now show that the often-eagerly-accepted leadership of us by others has led us along a "primrose" path. This route has been so devastating that illiteracy—and all its other accompanying "ills"—not only now enshackles, but also prevents nearly half of all African Americans from leading productive and fulfilling lives. Following this path has exacted (and continues to exact) a perilous price upon *all* other Americans.

No one can forget that an internecine and unforgettable Civil War was fought over the controversy...and that the deep and disparate vestiges of an undeclared war involving race still rages on.

## God Works Through All Mankind

**M**any believe that the main reasons Blacks have survived the harsh and bitter centuries of economic (and later psychological) exploitation for which they were brought to these American shores is both their faith in God and God's blessings, or helping hand, extended to all through others of His children. And, thanks to the "helping hand" of many outside the Black communities of America, today nearly 90 Black-led organizations have been enabled to come together nationally under the banner of what is known as the Assault On Illiteracy Program (AOIP). Thus, this report on the *Year 2000 Campaign* led by Black Americans is not part of any divisive scheme. Rather, it is part of a blueprint for the wide variety of pluralistic endeavors which must take place among and within all American ethnic groups if we are to reach this nation's optimal potential.

After a brief background on how it all began, the group-arrived-at goals for reaching out to—and actually uplifting—all of our urban masses will be outlined in brief detail in this issue. Interspersed among the goals will be comments from the planners and leaders on their feelings and the commitment of their organizations to these goals.

In the June issue of the *National BLACK MONITOR*, a broader description of the immediate and longer term objectives will be set forth. Leadership comments will continue. Also, our major supporters (or enablers) from within White Corporate America and otherwise whom our 15-million affiliated membership should both know and remember will be listed in the *National BLACK MONITOR* continuously throughout this campaign.

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