

INVESTING IN BLACK AMERICA..... (Continued from Page 14)

sibility with dignity for our own destinies.... I have never seen an opportunity for our people to help themselves and help America at the same time in such positive ways."

The balance of this feature will describe initial efforts in a vital new way for *all* in Black America to *earn* almost total ownership of our communities.

Part II—Investment Needs and Opportunities

This Cover Story on "Investing in Black America" poses three questions:

A. Do the masses of Black Americans have the ability to achieve enough ownership in Black America so that they not only can control their own destinies, but also assume much more of the responsibility for eradicating illiteracy and all the other resultant "ills" in their own communities?

B. Should those Blacks most financially able to invest choose their own communities for priority investment?

C. Should other Americans—particularly White Corporate America which takes so much from sales in the Black community—invest much, much more back into Black America?

These questions are addressed on the following pages, with the first being in quite-detailed form:

A. Earning Ownership by the Masses Within our Communities:

We have learned that all of us in the

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made long-term enslavement possible is our seeing White and things associated with White as better than, more desirable than, Black. Institutionalized negativism, if you will, where we devalue ourselves in relation to all things associated with White.

WHEN we buy Black, we invest in Black America and help to break these psychological chains of negativism that were first welded when our forefathers were brought here generations ago. And that is what the Black members of Congress—through NBLR—are urging that all Black Americans do, so that we can *earn* ownership of our communities and buy freedom!

Black community—importantly including our Black "masses"—actually can (and are determined) to acquire ownership in almost all the job-producing and capital-

amassing entities in, or nearby, our communities. However, based on AOIP's experience in a recently begun investment/ownership project, all but a

few of our leaders seemed at first to think that acquiring ownership of a multi-

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