

CENSUS BUREAU REPORTS NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN BLACK FAMILY MEDIAN INCOME; POVERTY RATE UP

The real median income of Black families was \$18,100 in 1987, according to the Department of Commerce's Census Bureau.

This figure is not statistically different from the 1986 median of \$18,250 after adjustment for a 3.7 percent increase in consumer prices.

The median income of White families increased by 1.1 percent, to \$32,270, while that of Hispanic families, at \$20,310, did not show a statistically significant change.

The ratios of Black-to-White and Hispanic-to-White family incomes were 56 percent and 63 percent, respectively. Neither showed a statistically significant change from their 1986 levels.

The median income of Black married couple families was \$27,180 in 1987, compared with \$35,300 for White and \$24,680 for Hispanic families. The Black-to-White and Hispanic-to-White

married couple income ratios were 77 percent and 70 percent, respectively. Neither showed a statistically significant change from 1986.

Among families with a female householder, no husband present, the median incomes were \$9,710 for Blacks, \$17,020 for Whites,

and \$9,810 for Hispanics. The apparent difference between median incomes of Blacks and Hispanics was not statistically significant.

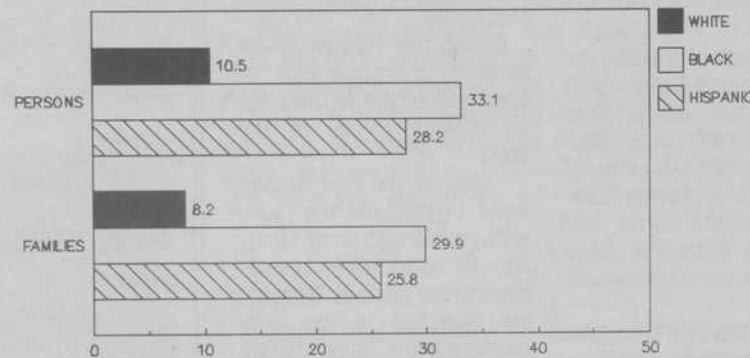
Per capita income of Blacks was \$7,500, not a statistically significant change from 1986 in real terms, while those of Whites and Hispanics were \$13,030 and \$7,610, both higher

than their 1986 levels.

The number of Black persons below the official government poverty level was 9.7 million in 1987, an increase from 9.0 million in 1986. The poverty rate was 33.1 percent, an increase from 31.1 percent.

The White population living below the poverty level in 1987 totaled 21.4 million,

PERCENT OF PERSONS AND FAMILIES BELOW THE POVERTY LEVEL BY RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN: 1987



NOTE: PERSONS OF HISPANIC ORIGIN MAY BE OF ANY RACE
SOURCE: U.S. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

not a statistically significant change from 1986. The poverty rate among Whites, however, was 10.5 percent, a decrease from 11.0 percent.

Hispanics in poverty numbered 5.5 million in 1987, up 353,000 from 1986. Their poverty rate of 28.2 percent was not statistically different from the 1986 level.

The poverty level for a family of four was \$11,611 in 1987 and \$11,203 in 1986.

BLACK HERITAGE WORKSHOP AT DOOLITTLE

The Black Heritage Workshop is to be conducted at Doolittle Center beginning Thursday, Nov. 2, 1988 through February 23, 1989.

This program is tuition free and funded by Southern Nevada Youth programs. A enlightful, informative, cultural experience is planned for all involved.

Interested black students should be encouraged to participate. All students must complete an application by October 28. Applications should be forwarded to Shelly Channel at Vo-Tech High School. Students should be instructed to arrive at Doolittle Center on Thursday, Nov. 2 at 6:30 p.m.

For further information contact Geneva Watts, 455-7700 before 4 p.m., 646-1780; after 4 p.m. Bobbie McRoy 386-6375 (Doolittle Center); or Shelly Channel, 799-7512.

Japan Is Gobbling Up American Assets

by Chester A. Higgins, Sr.

NNPA News Editor

Washington, D.C.—Japanese expressed racist attitudes towards Blacks and other minorities in the United States have increased Black interest in assessing the Land of the Rising Sun and its economic assets—especially those they are rapidly acquiring in the United States. And this raises a fundamental question:

What can Blacks expect as the newly affluent Japanese, flush with excess profits booty garnered through the enormous one-sided sales of their products to acquisitively driven Americans? If past is prelude, you can expect a continuation, indeed, an acceleration of Japanese refusal to move their auto, parts or electronics plants into American neighborhoods accessible to Blacks.

We can anticipate a continuation of their refusal to admit Blacks to dealer ownerships, etc. And most seasoned observers believe, we can not realistically expect any meaningful Japanese apologies for or moderation of their racial insults.

But a cold, factual look at what Japanese are doing in terms of investments in the U.S. might be instructive. To be forewarned is to be forearmed, is an old but apt phrase.

TRW, Inc., a public policy group in Washington, D.C., has published a book called *American Assets*. In it, TRW says that investments here America by Britons, Dutch and Japanese have grown dramatically in recent years. The Dutch and Brits are long-time investors. And while Dutch investments have increased by 150 percent, Japanese investments have zoomed 600 percent.

The Japanese (Sony) have purchased CBS Records for \$2 billion. Japanese investments in the U.S., increased by \$41.8 billion, according to

Makoto Kurado, a former Japanese trade minister. Nearly 3 million Americans (mostly Whites) are employed full-time or part-time at jobs in Honda, Nissan and Toyota plants in the U.S.

Studies show that foreign investors now own about 10 percent of America's manufacturing base and 20 percent of all bank assets; 33 percent of the prime commercial and real estate in the nation's capital, 39 percent in Houston and 46 percent in Los Angeles. The purchase of American real estate seems to draw the most attention; but the buying up of U.S. manufacturing and banking assets, pose perhaps a greater troubling problem in the future for Blacks and America.

Increasingly, Japan is in the forefront of foreign investors in America. This is causing gray hair in some White business circles, indicating a basic racist fear. They worry (and this is not always articulated or admitted) that Japan's foreign investment is another symbol of Japan superiority, of Japanese forging into an economic lead and gobbling up American companies and real estate at bargain-basement prices made possible by a powerful yen, according to financial writer Hobart Rowen of the Washington Post. And ultimately—nightmare of all nightmares!—of Japanese owning all of America!

So while the White business chagrin may be triggered by fears that "alien and inferior" forces are threatening their commercial stranglehold on America's and thus the world's goods and services — fears that are no doubt rooted in racism — Black consumers are enraged, but our fury is focused on real not perceived Japanese racist attitudes towards us.

Rancho Photo Express Sponsors Halloween Costume Photo Contest

The public is invited to enter the Rancho Photo Express Halloween Costume Contest.

Four Grand Prizes worth a total of \$200 will be awarded. Prizes will be \$50 worth of photo processing at Rancho Photo Express to each of four winners.

Prizes will be awarded for (1) the most original costume, (2) the funniest costume,

(3) the most glamorous costume and (4) the scariest costume.

Enter photos now. The deadline for entries is November 7. Winners will be selected and posted on November 13 in the Rancho Photo Express window.

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