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Coretta Scott King Reflects On Malcolm X: Part I



KEITH O. HILTON

The following are excerpts from Mrs. Coretta Scott King's 1969 (and still priceless) book, "My Life With Martin Luther King, Jr." She speaks of the Malcolm X that she and her husband came to admire.

The book was published by Holt, Rinehart and Winston. Today, Mrs. King is the Founding President and CEO of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change in Atlanta.

During the five days they (Dr. King and Rev. Abernathy) were in prison, Juanita (Abernathy) and I went to Selma to see them and to participate in the struggle. The day we arrived at Brown's Chapel for a noonday mass meeting, Andy Young came up to me and said, "You're going to have to come inside and greet people, because Malcolm X

is here and he's really roused them. They want to hear from you."

I said, "Andy, I'm just not in a speaking mood."

He said urgently, "You must do it. By the time you get inside, you'll feel like it."

Juanita and I went into the church and were enthusiastically received. Juanita spoke first. Then I gave a short inspirational speech, emphasizing the non-violent approach and urging them to continue. After I spoke, I was introduced to Malcolm X for the first time.

I was impressed by his obvious intelligence, and he seemed quite gentle as he said to me, "Mrs. King, will you tell Dr. King that I had planned to visit him in jail? I won't get a chance now because I've got to leave for New York in time to catch a plane for London where I'm

Head Start Delivers Quality Services

By Congressman
Augustus F. Hawkins

The Head Start program was created in 1964 under the Economic Opportunity Act. Project Head Start was enacted as part of President Lyndon B. Johnson's War on Poverty. Reports indicated that children of families living in poverty were more likely to suffer from health and nutrition problems, and had a lower level of educational performance than their higher income peers. The initial pilot program was created to help 100,000 children, over the summer months, who entered school in the fall of 1965. However, the project generated so much interest in communities nationwide that over 500,000 children were enrolled in the program that first year.

Head Start provided services to improve the social and learning skills and the nutritional health status of economically disadvantaged children before they enter school. Programs must provide for a range of services including: medical, dental, and social services, parental involvement, and educational programs and materials.

Studies have been conducted to determine the effectiveness of Head Start. The results of these studies indicate that children who

to address the African Students' Conference. I want Dr. King to know that I didn't come to Selma to make his job difficult. I really did come thinking that I could make it easier. If the white people realize what the alternative is, perhaps they will be more willing to hear Dr. King." I thanked him, and said I would give Martin his message.

I was impressed with Malcolm's sincerity, but found it difficult to reconcile with some of the Muslim principles which were so different from our thinking.

TO BE CONCLUDED NEXT WEEK

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receive educational and other services in the Head Start preschool program demonstrate improved academic and learning achievement.

Parental involvement is required in various aspects of the program. Many Head Start parents volunteer to assist with operating programs and about 30% of Head Start staff are parents of current or former participants. Head Start programs may be based at centers or homes, so that families may receive services in their homes. Programs must provide for interaction between Head Start staff and families of participating children.

Although Head Start is one of the most effective federal programs, it only serves about 17-18% of eligible low-income children. Hundreds of thousands of children are on waiting lists for Head Start programs. While it is evident that the current budget deficit has made federal funds scarce, Head Start is an example of a good return on an investment. We hear so often how important it is for children to receive education and nurturing in the critical early years. If we believe this statement, then we should commit the necessary resources to expand the Head Start program to assist all those who are eligible. Undoubtedly, it will be one of our nation's wisest investments.



John W. Alston, III

Dr. Paul Meacham Honored by the University of Texas at Austin

Dr. Paul Meacham, president of Clark County Community College, has been designated "a Distinguished Graduate of the College of Education" by the University of Texas at Austin.

John E. Roueche, Professor and Director of the university's Community College Leadership Program, said Dr. Meacham was being recognized for his contributions "to the program and to the field of American higher education."

Dr. Meacham received his PhD degree in Junior College Administration from the University of Texas in 1971.

This is only the third time in the history of the University of Texas that alumni have been designated "Distinguished Graduate." Dr. Meacham will be presented with his award in Austin on October 6. In addition, his portrait will be hung on a "wall of fame" honoring past and newly designated distinguished graduates.

The honor given Dr. Meacham will be part of the 45th anniversary celebration of the Community College Leadership Program.

"To be designated and forever honored as a distinguished graduate of



Dr. Paul Meacham

your alma mater is a reward few achieve. I am deeply grateful both personally and for the recognition it brings to Clark County Community College," Dr. Meacham said.

John W. Alston III To Present CCCCommencement Address

Graduates of Clark County Community College will be presented with Associate degrees in arts and sciences Sunday, May 20, at an evening commencement ceremony in the Cashman Field Center Theater.

Dr. Paul Meacham, president of CCC, said approximately 500 students had qualified for the Associate degree.

John W. Alston, III, Los Angeles educator, counselor and motivational humorist will present the commencement address. Dr. Meacham characterized Alston as a speaker who challenges and educates lives by the creed, "Life is a gift. Don't trash it."

"Alston is more than just the run-of-the-mill commencement speaker," Dr. Meacham said. "He offers a

profound challenge to the graduates to transcend mediocrity, and to work toward excellence."

Ceremonies will begin at 6 p.m. with presentation of the colors by the Nellis Air Force Base Honor Guard. During the evening a honorary degree of Associate in Arts, Humane Letters will be presented to Las Vegas civic leaders Charlotte Hill and William W. Southard, Jr.

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1-4 P.M.**

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