

BUSINESS

BUSINESS IN THE BLACK

Role models of African American police officers should be plentiful in our neighborhoods

BLACK COPS KEY TO CRIME STOP

By Charles E. Belle

Property is theft," Pierre-Joseph Proudhon, 1809-1865 pronounced some years ago. A person in business or a homeowner would surely stand up against an antagonist like Monsieur Proudhon, but then these are only words not like the war going on everyday in the African American and other poor neighborhoods of our nation.

No one is sure what property means - a place, parcel, package, or person. In fact, most African-American communities are surrounded by criminal activity.

Clyde Venson, Executive Director, Blacks in Law Enforcement, Inc., writes that "Black males, who cannot find employment or adequate jobs, most often become involved in crime for their survival.

Sometimes families participate in crimes together. The most commonly committed crimes in the community are prostitution, petty larceny, burglary, rape, robbery, and sale of illegal drugs or bootleg whiskey." Whether M. Proudhon was trying to justify these crimes with his statement is unclear.

Nevertheless, the great majority of the African American and other members of poor

communities abhor these crimes and call for police protection!

The fact that the American system has failed these African American males does not mean that their neighbors should suffer. Since white police officers principally use informants for conviction of any other African American males, allowing these informants to continue to inflict physical violence on others in

the African American and other communities in exchange for a false testimony only means the chain must be broken by hiring and promoting more Black Law Enforcement officers. These brothers can arrest this type of behavior from within the police departments.

The African American family is foundering because it has fewer fathers. Almost two out of

five households are without a father because of the U.S. welfare system.

Since there can be no man in the house if a family is to receive Aid to Families With Dependant Children. This casting into the streets of the African American male has been going on too long. It resulted in ruining this and other's lives.

African American male life

expectancy has declined for the fourth consecutive year of record keeping. Homicide is the leading cause of death among young African American males. Life expectancy for whites is at 75.6 years, while African Americans continue to decline to 69.7 years. Young African American males must be able to see employment on the side of the law as an alternative to the



CHARLES E. BELLE

streets. A total of 16,000 law enforcement and criminal justice and correction agencies in America have got to be made to open their doors for equal employment and promotion of African American men and women in order for all Americans to have protection for person and property.

BUSINESS EXCHANGE

WATCHING THE HYPE

By William Reed

How many times can we say, "We kicked some?" How many different ways can we show ourselves that this country is the mightiest butt kicker in the world? While millions of the nation's citizens and business are trying to figure out how to just survive, the leaders in the nation's capital are currently using the little prosperity we have left to make this the Mecca of hype and celebration for our victory in the Persian Gulf War. On stately Constitution Avenue yellow ribbon-wearing Americans patriots can get photographed with General Colin Powell, or the

Knight of the Sands, Stormin' Norman Schwartzkopf. But in spite of the butt beating we've done and pictures of war heroes we hang on the wall, fewer and fewer of us have pictures of Washington, Lincoln, Hamilton, or Jackson to put in our pockets.

For the moment the public's pictures with Powell and Schwartzkopf are on picture board cut-outs, but on June 8th, Constitution Avenue, Independence and other Washington streets will host the real live Top Brass in a cornucopia of expensive hype. American taxpayers will foot much of the \$6 million tab for, what seems to be endless pageantry of, "We Done Kicked Butt" hoopla. The monumental parade and celebration will surpass any May Day extravaganza we've scorned the Russians for doing. We'll have tanks tearing up our stately streets, we'll have multi-million dollar war planes screaming

overhead and disrupting traffic for one of the world's busiest airports, and we'll foot the bill for thousands of soldiers to come here from military bases around the country. And the Top Brass will be there. The President, the Congress and heads of the world's leading arms producers will have front-and-center box seats to view the mighty celebration.

But if we step outside the hype is there reason to wonder, "what are we celebrating?" If we look at the stability of the Middle East, will we note that although we replaced 600,000 Kuwaitis to their homeland, at the same time, we helped displace over 3 million Kurds from theirs? Did we pay attention to the reason that our soldiers have to march on Constitution is because since

we've done nothing to gain the Palestinians a home and we've cooperated with Israelis to commit some of the most horrendous crimes to mankind on the planet. And if we think that we've made friends of the millions of Arabs in the region with high-tech arms display, the reality of the international truth may soon over come the domestic hype.

At home we've got a recession, unemployment, financial crisis, accelerated business failures and major cities crumbling in debt. Our production plants are on half schedules, housing starts can't get started, and people can't pay their mounting bills and can't buy autos or real estate. The interest on the government's debt is being underwritten by other more

stable economic powers of the planet. While we stand alone in the military power parade, when the economic powers have a meeting, the "Butt Kickers" have to take a back seat to the leaders of Japan and Germany.

Black Americans will be foot soldiers in the parades, but the limited number of jobs here will not go to them. We'll be the last ones in line to get bank loans, and we'll still be waiting for workplace equity after the Commander-in-Chief vetoes the Civil Rights Bill. African-Americans don't want to be left out of anything and will attempt to be successes. But after the hype on Constitution and the Mall, the question on 125th Street, South Street and other inner-cities neighborhoods, is "when will we get paid?"

NEVADA UNEMPLOYMENT RATE RISES

The Nevada seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for

May rose by .5 percentage points, Nevada Employment Security Executive Director, Stan Jones, announced today.

May's statewide unemployment rate of 6.4 percent signals a lingering problem with the economy, Jones said. "Economic recovery for both Nevada and the nation is not as positive as we had expected. Nevada continues to closely mirror the roller coaster effect that the economic downturn is having on the nation as a whole."

Just when Nevada joined the rest of the nation in the eco-

nomie slump was difficult to determine, Jones said, adding, "It will be equally difficult to measure when it's over."

He pointed out there were 17,700 more Nevadans employed in May over the same time a year ago.

Nationally, the unemployment rate rose .1 percentage points, and neighboring California matched the national numbers with an identical increase of .3 percentage points.

Unemployment in Las Vegas increased to 6.7 percent, a (See Nevada, Page 17)

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