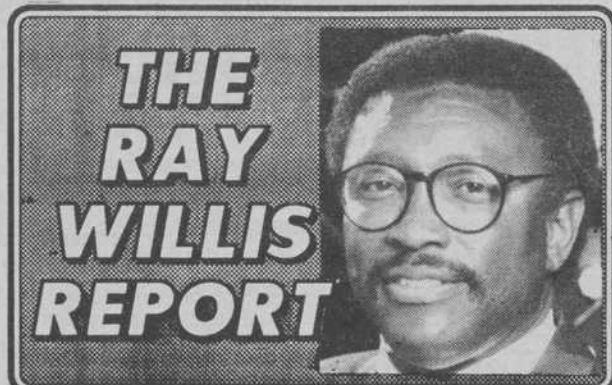


NATIONAL ALLIANCE AGAINST RACIST & POLITICAL REPRESSION**"UNITY, THE TIME IS NOW!"**

Twelve years ago, some folks in Detroit led by Horace She-

field established the Detroit Association of Black Organizations

**The NAACP - 'EXHIBIT A'**

By Ray E. Willis

Since its founding in 1909 at the historic Niagara Conference, the NAACP has gained a well-earned reputation as a preeminent force in civil rights issues affecting Black people. In recent times though, the NAACP has come under fire from outspoken critics who say the organization has developed chinks in its armour which have rendered the group largely ineffectual. In short, critics contend, the NAACP is out of step with the times.

In reality is it fair to say the NAACP has outlived its usefulness? After all these years, has the nation's best-known civil rights organization finally lost its luster? Some would argue that point after the group seemingly shot itself in the foot by prematurely opposing the nomination of Judge Clarence Thomas to the Supreme Court.

I was one of those who initially believed the NAACP should have reserved judgement until there was ample time to thoroughly study and review Judge Thomas.

Objectively, the NAACP's reputation has never depended on a single issue or stand. In my view it would take a whole lot more than the Thomas affair to tarnish the hard-earned, respectable image of the NAACP.

My personal "Exhibit A" in response to why the NAACP remains at the vanguard of Black civil rights and should continue to receive our total support is the recent NAACP backed report on Hollywood and the movie industry, entitled "Out of Focus — Out of Sync." The study, just released earlier this week, shows Blacks lack hiring authority and that only a handful of Blacks hold executive positions with film studios and television networks.

Among other "doom and gloom" statistics in the NAACP report: Despite the fact that Blacks purchase 25 percent of domestic movie tickets, Black-owned businesses frequently are not awarded contracts by the entertainment industry.

Furthermore, the report labels Hollywood a "closed shop," a place with "extremely limited opportunities for Blacks" either in front or behind the cameras.

In finding fault and laying blame on the movie industry, the NAACP is doing what it does best, exposing problems that perpetuate racism in this country.

Historically, the NAACP has achieved notoriety by speaking out loud and frequently on such controversial topics.

Another equally important function of the NAACP is raising the funds necessary for carrying on its work. Local branches play an important fundraising role. Coincidentally, the Las Vegas NAACP branch is presently planning its annual Freedom Fund Banquet to be held at Bally's Hotel on November 23. This year's guest speaker is Percy Sutton, broadcasting executive, owner/patron of the Apollo Theater and former president of the New York Borough of Manhattan.

On the strength of the aforementioned "Exhibit A's" and all the "Exhibit A's" in the organization's rich and extensive history, it is evident that the NAACP is alive and well. However, I will be the first to concede that the association could stand perhaps just a touch of rejuvenation.

BY CHARLOTTE FULLER, SECRETARY N.A.A.R.P.R.,
LIFE-TIME MEMBER N.A.A.C.P.

(D.A.B.O.). In 1979, Mr Sheffield expressed the need for D.A.B.O. when he wrote in the Michigan Chronicle "The Black community as we all know, is beset with many deficits: The most serious one is its lack of a vehicle, through which responsible Black groups can come together to make rational, studied and unemotional judgements on where the Black Community's interest lie in the continuing crises that confront Black people".

D.A.B.O. envisioned the success could provide the stimulus for similar movements in other cities the could ultimately result in a National Association of Black Organizations (N.A.B.O.). D.A.B.O. continues to be successful, and has accomplished much.

D.A.B.O.'s long range vision

was realized when the Executive Director of the N.A.A.C.P., Benjamin Hooks, announced the formation of the National Association of Black Organizations (N.A.B.O.) at the July, 1991 National Convention of the N.A.A.C.P.

The purpose of N.A.B.O. is to deal with the systemic problems of the Black family, rising unemployment, the problems of teen-age pregnancy, drugs and crime. The time is **now** for our community to revitalize and build a strong LAS VEGAS ASSOCIATION OF BLACK & BROWN ORGANIZATIONS (L.A.B.O.) to include Hispanic and native American Organizations. The time is **now** to mobilize our forces in support of common causes as we did in response to the Charles Bush tragedy.

L.A.B.O. is currently a clear-

Agency Charged as Criminal, Out of Control**CHURCH FILES \$120 MILLION LAWSUIT AGAINST THE IRS**

The Church of Scientology International recently filed a \$120 million damages suit against 17 Washington, DC and Los Angeles-based IRS officials in Federal District Court in Los Angeles. The suit charges the agency officials with waging a 33-year campaign of illegal acts violating the constitutional rights of the Church and a large number of its parishioners.

Based on a 1971 Supreme Court case establishing that government agents may be sued as individuals for conduct which violates constitutional rights, the suit was prepared by a team of attorneys in Los Angeles, Wash-

ington, DC and Boston. The lead attorney on the case, William T. Drescher, stated that winning this suit would offer all American churches "inviolable protection" from illegal government intrusions into their religious affairs.

The suit focuses particularly on IRS harassment and illegalities committed against the Church since 1983, though it is cited as "the culmination of three decades of IRS coercion in violation of the First, Fourth and Fifth Amendments to the Constitution.

According to the suit, docu-
(See Church Sues, Page 7)

ing house to maintain a master mailing list of organizations, churches and clubs to disseminate information on projects and

activities to group members. To join L.A.B.O. call Charlotte Fuller at 871-5011 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

(Continued from Page 2)

in any money making gang activities.

6. The police harassment of Eric Eackles' family extended to harassment of Eric's aunt Sheila Lewis, and Eric's former girlfriend and mother of his children, Angie Evans. On December 13, 1989, Sheila Lewis and Angie Evans were arrested in front of Sheila Lewis' apartment on loitering charges, and handcuffs were placed on Sheila Lewis so tightly she developed carpal-tunnel syndrome. incurred more than \$10,000 in medical expenses and lost approximately \$5,000 in wages from time off work. Sheila Lewis and Angie Evans sued the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department in Federal Court for a civil rights violation in 1990. The two recently won a settlement.

7. Eric Eackles, Terrance Eackles and Calvin Long were followed by undercover North Las Vegas Police Officers as they went shopping on the day of Eric's and Calvin's murder.

8. Two highly skilled riflemen were employed in the conspiracy to assassinate Eric Eackles, Calvin Long, Terrance Eackles and a fourth person. These riflemen succeeded in shooting Eric Eackles, Calvin Long and the fourth person, in the head at a distance. Calvin Long was head shot as he rode in a moving vehicle, a feat which requires skill and practice.

9. The shooting occurred at night and probably involved the use of sophisticated infrared night scope equipment.

10. The shooting occurred approximately one block apart

and simultaneously which indicated probable radio contact between the shooters.

11. Yellow Jacketed members of the police gang units did not respond in mass to the shootings of Eric Eackles and Calvin Long as they have done in past shootings of suspected gang members.

12. Instead of the police securing one of the buildings from which shots were known to be fired, the building was burned down to the ground within 24 hours of the shootings thereby destroying possible evidence.

13. The vehicle Calvin Long was riding in when shot was not impounded into evidence as is customary police procedure.

14. The usual method of operation for gang style shootings — the spraying of bullets from assault pistols from a passing car — was not followed, and the method employed was far more sophisticated and much more consistent with a method which would be employed by a police SWAT team.

15. Police have refused to release the name of the fourth person who was the third shooting victim.

Based on the fifteen above-mentioned factors, it is felt that members of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department and the North Las Vegas Police Department may have been involved in the assassination of Eric Eackles and Calvin Long and that an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and United State Department of Justice is merited.

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