July 16, 1992 The LAS VEGAS SENTINEL-VOICE NATIONAL ALLIANCE AGAINST RACIST & POLITICAL REPRESSION

one they stop regardless of

where it is in Metro's jurisdic-

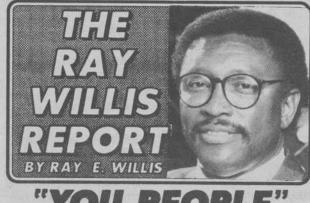
Police Department along with

the help from some of the major

The Las Vegas Metropolitan

tional area?

By Dr. James S. Tate Jr., M.D. The recent announcement by the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department that they will now install Lt. Willy Davis on the so called "West Side," in an attempt to humanize the practices of the Metropolitan Police Department towards the residents of the so called "West side," while we view this as an admiral idea



AN OPEN LETTER TO ROSS PEROT. Dear Mr. Perot.

I'm sorry you had to go through a personal ordeal in order to learn a hard lesson in Black cultural etiquette. By now, as you read this, you know that it is totally inappropriate and a measure of disrespect to refer to us as "you people."

You were doing just fine, up to a point, as you stood there before 1,000 delegates attending the national NAACP convention. Your words resonated throughout the meeting hall, full of hope and conviction. Yes, you impressed nearly everyone with your sincerity and sense of purpose to put America back on top if you are elected president.

Mr. Perot, sir, you can't imagine how shocked we all were when you "opened mouth and inserted foot" with those fatal misstatements. How could someone who appears to be in tune with all Americans make such an "unintentional" mistake? You sure surprised us all.

But, you know, Mr. Perot, you are not the only person, group or organization that is blameworthy here. Many of the same news agencies that reported your racial blunder would not be forthright in admitting their own racial failings.

The same media people who were quick to report your misstatements, routinely slight African-Americans themselves. Black females and children in poverty and Black men connected to the criminal justice system are more frequently singled out for news coverage. As a result, America gets a skewed, negative image of us. Our mentalities are shaped by the society we live in.

Considering how naive you appeared after saying "you people" in reference to Black Americans, perhaps you were simply echoing how distant Black and White America are from each other.

Whatever the case, kind sir, Mr. Perot, you obviously know there is a distinction among the races or you wouldn't have said what you said, the way you said it.

In fact, if we (Blacks) and you, Mr. Perot, would face up to reality, then we could both say candidly that a sharp, very definite division still exists between Blacks and Whites in this nation. Should we then excuse you, forgive you, even exonerate you for saying what you said? Or should we sanction you by not supporting your presidential candidacy.

Mr. Perot, we thought you were refreshingly different from the other two candidates. Clinton bashed Sister Soljah. Bush gave us Willie Horton. And now you sir, reter to us as "you people."

There's a lot of politics yet to be played out between now and election time Mr. Perot. I suspect you'll have plenty more opportunities to show us the real you. Sir, the ball is definitely back in your court.

we would suggest to Metro a more novel concept. Why not train your police officers and require your police officers to behave humanely toward everymedia sources have continued to attempt to portray this situation with the police as a police versus the African American community issue.

> This is very cynically and calculatedly done in an attempt to divide the Las Vegas community and isolate the African American community as being the only ones who have complaints against the police. Clearly, nothing can be further from the truth.

Our experience as we have listened to some of the tales of woe, and the horror stories that have come out of our activities at the Department of Motor Vehicles, (in terms of collecting signatures on our petition), have clearly indicated that the problem with the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police is that - as we have repeatedly stated in the past, - not based on color, but based on the distorted mentality of Metro which views the community, as at best surfs, and at worst slaves, which whom they as the overseers are duty bound to oppress in any way, shape or fashion.

It is also very clear that the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department is very, very worried about what will happen in November, in terms of the initiative to put the issue of the control board on the ballot, and the subsequent approval of that initiative. In spite of the illegal, immoral, and as far as we are concerned, the criminal behavior on the part of the Secretary of State, the State Police, and Metro itself, the struggle to place this issue on the ballot in November proceeds very forcefully and very successfully.

This clearly has them worried. It is our opinion that this issue will eventually end up in the courts, probably the federal courts where the criminal activity of those mentioned above will be exposed for all to see.

For now, however, we should make it clear that the belated attempts on the part of the Metropolitan Police Department to appease those who would so easily compromise the community of Las Vegas by attempting to short circuit the civilian control of the police, do not change the issue and only expose themselves for what they are-Judas goats.

3

For anyone who has been paying attention for the last several months, it is clear that as Angela Davis has said, "if they come for me in the night, you can bet that they will come for you in the morning," that should be remembered by all those who have curried favor with master in the past, and now find themselves on the slaughterhouse floor. Remember that not only the master, but the people also, have very long memories!

The Struggle Continues!!!

N.L.V. ... THE WESTSIDE STORY

By R.K. Brown

As the next presidential election rolls around, I would like to personally ask everyone to take an active part, in our established voting access. That is obviously,our American right. This is the only way for us to effect the system. The oppressive years of Reganomics have left a legacy of government cutbacks, and outright racism.

Although I feel voting is a very important process in our achieving of equality, I don't feel it is the best way to control our black American destiny. In fact I personally feel it is the "least"

likely way, for blacks to effect the American system. The only good purpose it serves is to elect responsible black officials to vital positions. If we had no black representation in the political ranks, than the racist laws developed since America's beginning, could be ratified with no reasonable intervention. Also these elected officials become the "only" voice of black America in these public settings. These are the positives, of the current American voting system. If we examine the negative

If we examine the negative aspects, we find that they are large and unending. First, we

are just 12% of the population. With just a small general population, we can't hope to truly effect the real outcome of presidential voting. I'm sure many of you will argue that, our 12% can greatly sway an election one way or another. This sounds good in theory, but the true reality dispels this assessment. There are only two parties in the American political system. One of these parties completely opposes the positive forces of social change. The conservative agenda is specifically set up, to fight against any change of the American social or political system. That

only leaves black American social or political system. That only leaves black America, with one party of representation. So, in any election conservatives concede the mass of minority voters, to the liberal agenda.

The key to this process is that minorities "have" to vote in block form, if they are going to have any real effect on voting turn out. If we move to separate our political philosophies, like many black conservatives, we only further tragment our already miniscule numbers. In this way, our 12% representation be-(See The Vote, Page 18)

