

GUEST COMMENTARY

"1993...THE YEAR WE GOT THE MESSAGE"

By Kamau Khalfani,
Minister Of Information

After a few hundred years of enslavement, a few serious attempts at being erased from the face of the earth, serving as victims for human experimentation, being oppressed, suppressed, depressed, and any other "pressed" you can think of... quite frankly, I'm all "pressed" out!

So I'm sure you can understand why I, along with the rest of the Afrikan American community, can appreciate the winds of change seen on the horizon. It would appear that after having our heads literally beat in, we may actually have gotten the message that the white folks are not our greatest friends, nor are they, might I add, our greatest enemy.

Lets take a pole: Who would you say is the greatest enemy of our people? (A) White People (B) Black People or (C) Ignorance? Sorry to disappoint you fake radicals but it's not the white people, and I don't mean to make you self hating brothers and sisters feel bad, but Black people are not their own worst enemy either. If you voted "C" you're right; ignorance is our worst enemy. Let me show you why.

On the 15th of January, Dr. Anyim Palmer, the founder of the Calvary School (in Los Angeles), came to deliver a lecture at the Doolittle Recreation Center (for those of you who don't know, Dr. Palmer has third-graders doing calculus). He explained how he got the Calvary School started and why it is important for us to be able to

educate our own children. The reason for this discussion, of course, was that there is a great need for a privately owned and privately financed alternative education mechanism in this community.

This lecture was held at Doolittle Recreation Center, which we all know is in an area that is politically incorrect, so we understand that some people could not make an appearance (during daylight hours), and... since we already have a great public school system (set up and run by you know who), there really was no reason for them to

come over to Doolittle to meet Dr. Palmer... unless they understand that the powers that be in this country are very happy with the status quo or the way things are. Why they even installed little check points along the wayside to make sure that it is maintained. Now take a wild guess at what the first line of defense for the status quo is... that's right, the school. The final defense is the graveyard (which is where most people who buck the status quo end up... face down). Of course there are a lot of points in between like drug addiction, addiction to religion

(the opium of the people), alcoholism, etc. ... but for now lets stick to the school system.

If a student does not conform to a teacher's request, what happens to that student? The student is singled out as a disruption. If the student contests strongly enough, that student will become, at worst, a threat to the teacher, or at best a behavioral problem. Definition for a behavioral problem: one who is not able to adjust to the normal routine of the classroom. Of course this means that student must be removed from the classroom.

STOP! Listen to what I am saying! If you do not act and perform within the guidelines of behavioral and social interaction that have been put before you (ie nice little white girls and boys who walk, talk, act, and even look like their older counterparts, the teachers and administrators), you are a problem. You will then be marked like cattle and herded off to "special class" where, chances are, you will spend the rest of your academic career. Of course you could get lucky and drop out of school, but then your chances for employment take a serious dive because you don't have the educational stamp of approval. No problem, you turn to something more lucrative like say... selling drugs! How about some pot?

Nah, the government has made sure that pot is not available to the masses, but there are plenty of synthetic drugs (for some strange reason) that will help you get right on your merry little way to either prison, where they will put your brain on ice, or the graveyard, where they will stand over your dead body and preach a sermon of lies on how you are proof of why you should not resist the indoctrination at the elementary level, and "stay in school." Now some have gotten lucky and knew when to quit; they wound up in church... and haven't done a damn thing since they've been there, with the exception of stealing a spouse or two.

In spite of all of this, some people are seeing through these smoke screens and moving to a plan of action. The problem is not enough people are getting the message fast enough... hence my point that ignorance is the #1 "Bad Guy" in the Black community, followed closely by mistrust and procrastination.

When Dr. Palmer was asked, "How did you get 3rd-graders to do calculus?" he replied, "Simple. I didn't tell them it was hard."

"Hmmm, I wonder how we can get Black people to support a Black-owned and run school?" "Simple, don't tell them it's impossible!"

"JUSTICE?"

(Continued from Page 3)

racist system, has been the ruthless enforcement arm of this discriminating regime. Historically, Blacks have never received equal treatment under the law. In times when we have risen to speak against this injustice, these demented bounty hunters are called to the scene with guns loaded.

At the time of the most peaceful demonstration for human rights, our leader, Dr. M.L. King, was being slandered as a communist. The FBI, the leading law enforcement agency, was so corrupt and racist in it's viewpoint, that it could (or should I say can?) be compared the racist SS hitmen of Nazi Germany. Remember, the TV series the FBI was one of the hit shows in America, yet the department was completely racist!

Cop shows dominate the airways, yet the people who have historically led community lynchings of black Americans have always been the police; sheriffs, deputized vigilante groups, and endorsed concerned citizens mobs. These groups of legalized murderers have historically killed black men and children.

One of the most well respected Harvard law Professors has suggested that, America is one of the hardest places in the free world to get a fair trial. Because money plays such a big part in what lawyer you get, and how justice is administered, it is suggested that minorities have little chance of gaining an equal advantage. With that kind of judicial system in place for centuries, I'm sure those officers will get all the justice they need. Why else would they be training to bust heads at the Silver Bowl? peace...

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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like practices of his police force — ie: revoking a persons work permit and livelihood in relation for his sons' personal work setbacks, jailing newspaper photographers for touching undercover cops (unrecognizable as such) during a strike protest, entering people's homes without search warrants using keys from landlords and roommates, not identifying themselves, banging on people's homes like wahoos and then shooting the inhabitant when the door is opened to get rid of the harassers, using tanks to break up community gatherings, searching motorists' cars on alleged traffic violations without search warrants and forcing the driver to stand facing the front of the police car with his back to his own car while the illegal search is conducted and improper questioning is undertaken as to the driver's occupation, if he has a license to do it, if his business is listed with the New York stock exchange, and expressing derision if it's not listed.

Perhaps real change can come only after the community is fed up enough with a fascist police force to elect a different sheriff. Or city and county governments could appoint a dismissible police chief responsible directly to them or two police commissioners - one each from the city and county, elected or appointed by the respective councils. An elected sheriff not responsible directly to either government body should no longer be acceptable. Las Vegas could learn from Honolulu, San Francisco and Los Angeles about combined and divided city and county police forces achieving better results than exist here now.

Yours truly, Rex Prince

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Dear Editor:

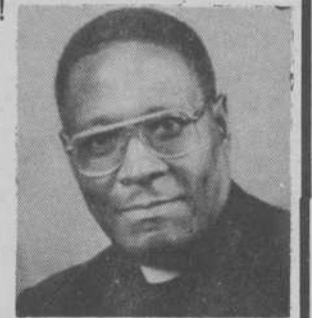
I am writing in response to the article entitled "A Tasty Pudding" written by Ray Willis which appeared in the Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice on March 11, 1993.

First off, I would like to say that I agree with the fact that Afrikans have been extensively portrayed negatively in the media, yet I disagree with what you consider to be positive images. Why rejoice in the fact that others are coming into our (See Letters, Page 9)

THE NAACP AND YOU!



Rev. Jesse D. Scott
President
Las Vegas, NAACP



ATTENTION NAACP MEMBERS!

As a result of the complaint filed against the Las Vegas branch regarding it's December 1992 election, the National Board of Directors has ordered a new election be held this Sunday,

March 21, 1993.

William A. Penn, Sr., National Director of Branch and Field Services, has been appointed presiding officer and will oversee the new election.

All NAACP members whose memberships were current as of March 15, 1993, and on the day of the election, will be eligible to vote in the new election.

The new election will be held at the Heritage Lounge, 1042 West Owens Ave., and the polls will be open from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Members are being asked to bring some form of identification in order to receive a ballot.



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