

NATIONAL ALLIANCE AGAINST RACIST & POLITICAL REPRESSION

"THE SHAMAN VS. THE CHIEF"



JAMES S. TATE JR., MD

chief. If that is true, then we cannot criticize the shaman for being a poor chief, if we indeed have asked them to do that. We can not ask the church to play the leadership in the struggle for liberation because that is not what the church is there for. The church if there to support that effort but not necessarily to lead it. If we then abandon the field to everyone else and there is no left but the shaman to lead, the shaman leads because the shaman has to fill the vacuum that is left there. Again, we cannot turn on the shaman and criticize the shaman for leading. I note that today there are, all together, too many religious leaders, who presently lead organizations, that are involved in struggle. I bring this up only to say that when that situation occurs, there is a strong risk in that there will be errors of position and errors of strategy, which go back to the primary training and philosophy of the shaman vs. the chief. Therefore, before we criticize the shaman we must first make sure that there are ample chiefs to go around, so that the shaman may return to the temple and the chiefs may continue to lead the people.

La Lucha Continua! The Struggled Continues.

By James S. Tate, Jr., M.D.,
Chairperson, NAARPR

In ancient African and other cultures in which people group themselves into societies, (notice I say societies, not tribes; only Europeans have tribes: the Yugoslavian tribe, the Bosnian

tribe, the Serbian tribe, etc. etc. You get the picture) among the people of color there were two positions that were, perhaps, the two most dominate: 1) The position of the chief, the leader of the society, and 2) The position of the shaman, who was the

spiritual guidance of the society. These were two different roles and the roles were very clear. The shaman would never be chief and chief would never attempt to be shaman. The reason for this, if one thinks about it, it is also very clear, for the chief must be the strongest, the visionary, the one who knows where they want to go and how to get there. The chief is the leader, the one who leads the

people along the path of freedom, of liberation etc. The shaman, on the other hand, was the spiritual guidance of the people and of the chief who kept the chief on the righteous path, as it were, and did not allow to the chief to stray too far from the traditions and culture of those who preceded him.

In our modern day society, African Americans apparently have lost sight of the separation

of these two activities. For today, we now ask the shaman to be the chief, and then we become upset when the shaman loses his or her way while functioning as the chief. The shaman must be the shaman and the chief must be the chief. We must be very careful when we ask one to do the job of the other, for the chief would make a poor shaman and indeed the shaman, often times, makes a poor

THE RAY WILLIS REPORT
BY RAY E. WILLIS

READ!!!

Reading is a basic educational skill that is essential to learning and acquiring knowledge. Unless you are illiterate, you shouldn't have an excuse not to read. Everyone in civilized society should read. People should read consistently and daily. For enjoyment and for information.

Not only is reading fundamental, but it is crucial to survival in today's complex world.

It's O.K. to watch TV in moderation. But it's not the same as being able to read and to select books, newspapers, pamphlets and other periodic reading material that keeps you in the know.

My good friend, Washington D.C. Black psychiatrist Dr. Frances Cress Welsing considers reading is a crucial part of her solution for Black people's survival in a racist society. "Read, read, read, read, read," Welsing stresses whenever she gives one of her famous afrocentric group presentations.

When I visited her hotel room while she was on the road, Dr. Welsing had at least five different newspapers that she was poring through on the coffee table. "I constantly have to have a variety of reading material so I can keep up with what's happening in the world. Ultimately, you come across something buried way back in paper somewhere that is extremely significant relative to the survival of Black folk," she said.

Unfortunately though, reading is not a high priority for some Blacks, especially those in the Black underclass. Because they are preoccupied with everyday survival. If you don't know where

your next meal is coming from it's ridiculous to expect you to read five newspapers daily.

That is the obvious dilemma for many African-Americans — basic survival from day-to-day, as opposed to higher-level survival as a race.

With those considerations in mind, if you have the time or can make the time, I appeal to you to get involved with a new reading group that's forming right now in Las Vegas. It's called Appreciating Books in our Community, or ABC. This Afrocentric literary group is sponsored by the Las Vegas Alliance of Black School Educators (LVABSE), under the direction of Dr. Linda Young, president of the organization.

At the beginning of each month, ABC will assign its members a Black-oriented book to read. Near the end of the month the group will get together to review and discuss the book-of-the-month. Young people and children are also encouraged to participate. "It's a great way for us to forge a positive literary alliance among fellow African-Americans," Dr. Young said.

If you are interested in being a part of ABC, call the LVABSE office at 734-0019.

To know is to grow. Until next week.

NLV...THE WESTSIDE STORY
SOMETIMES

By R.K. Brown

I know from time to time all of us have wondered about the world we live in. Sometimes it seems that real people have little control of the world around them. We all have to pay taxes of course. And we all have to die for our country, if our name is called. We all have to pay our dues; if its rent, hospital bills, time in the pen, or homelessness. This is the price you pay for being an American citizen.

Its strange, no one asks me if I want a job, or if I want to die for a country; they could care less about me. Instead we are forced to watch as they pick and choose to do the nations of color any way they may dream up! They can run villains from here to Baghdad. They can waste thugs from south central to Somalia.

When whites get caught up in the emotion of what should be done there is no question, they are decisive in their actions. To drop a bomb on a couple million Asians was no big thing. To nearly wipe of a race of Native American people was a "manifest destiny." And to blow the Somalia's chief, and Iraq's commander to kingdom come, was a noble deed!

We realize that American politics sometimes exposes itself for the racist, unchanging system that it is. Black South Africa has been under control by racist, fascist criminals for centuries, but white America never cared. Why not send some smart

bombs and navel carriers to the shores of South Africa?

Cuba has been one of our arch enemies since the late 1950's. With the break up of the communist bloc, wouldn't that be one of our first moves toward a friendly alliance? Cuba is only 90 or so miles from our mainland. Instead we send food and millions of dollars to our white communist friends, on the other side of the world. Sometimes it makes you think, the world might truly be divided by color.

The southern people of the Americas have been treated in a brutal way by white America. Native Americans, Spanish, and African populations, have turned the south into an area of color. Whites have left Cuba and that region of color to fend for itself. In every instance, when the prosperity of white America has

been challenged, all Americans — red, white green and purple — have no choice but to fight. When the world interests of black America are introduced, we can see the lack of concern.

There is no way black America or the black world can benefit from the one world government. The U.N. was established in the 1940's. Blacks had no control then, and little now. Every move that blacks make for the rest of this century should be for economic and political independence. The mind set of racist control will never change. What must change is the development of blacks' economic growth and prosperity. Only then can we reach the higher goal, to control the sickening, and infectious plaque of racism, loved in white America.

PEACE...

SUMMER SALE

93's Must Go!

Model Year Clearance

2ND CHANCE FINANCING

- BANKRUPTCY • POOR CREDIT •
- FIRST TIME BUYER • DIVORCED



ART REED

"Let me assist you in re-establishing your credit and give you a great deal on your next new or used vehicle"

FAIRWAY CHEVROLET

NEVADA'S #1 VOLUME CHEVROLET/GEO DEALER

3100 E. SAHARA • DIAL YOUR DEAL TODAY 641-1400

JOCKEY TRAVEL SERVICES

FULL SERVICE AGENCY OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

- LOWEST POSSIBLE RATES
- INDIVIDUAL & GROUP TRAVEL
- CRUISE • AIR • TOURS
- FULLY COMPUTERIZED
- CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
- ASK ABOUT TICKET DELIVERY
- STAFFED WITH CERTIFIED TRAVEL CONSULTANTS

795-7772 (702) 739-9256 FAX 1-800-634-6649

AT JOCKEY CLUB RESORT PROPERTIES • 3700 S. LAS VEGAS BLVD.