July 29, 1993 The LAS VEGAS SENTINEL-VOICE NATIONAL ALLIANCE AGAINST RACIST & POLITICAL REPRESSION

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

At a recent seminar held at the North Las Vegas Library, the topic was The Importance Of Education Both Formal And Self And How Does One Motivate Oneself As Well As Others In This Important Endeavor. How do you encourage youngsters to stay in school and continue to be educated, and to seek further education? My position was fairly simple. That from the time you are bom to the time you die, if you are an African living in the

hostile environment of America you basically have no choice but to dedicate your life to struggle. Even if you try, the struggle is virtually impossible to avoid because the beast will seek you out and do battle with you. Having recognized that, then the question is how does one best prepare oneself to be a soldier in this war. Clearly all soldiers need to be trained. It is no good to pit yourself against a well trained killing machine with nothing on your side but your anger. This would lead to massacre and we



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do not need another massacre, for we have had many in the past 450 years.

Education then must be seen as a way of preparing yourself to be a better soldier. I do not mean that one should study to be a better soldier, in the sense of (See MARDER Page 10)

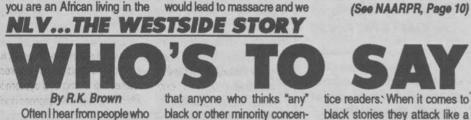
More whites are on welfare

than any other group, but blacks

are the ones we see on the news.

Whites steal all the money, but

(See Westside Story, Page 22)



Often I hear from people who say, "Why do you always point out the troubles between whites and blacks?" It is true that stressing injustices doesn't solve the problem. If there is one thing any of us has learned, it is that you must move on.

When one dwells on the past, it is usually where you stay. But, life is also a reality. And the scary reality is, if blacks don't punctuate their own accomplishments and successes, no one else will.

Let's say in September, the school district decided to let the real story of world history be told. Since America is a democratic society, rules would allow for the majority of the citizens to hear about their culture, for the majority of the time.

Blacks make up about 13% of the population, so if the educational system was working at it's best, law would only allow for black exposure on a very small basis. The same goes for every other aspect of the American culture. Who's to say where we can get a break. In advertising blacks live on islands. You get the toothpaste or jeans, with one black and a group of white people. Is it only on commercials that minorities work, live and eat with whites?

One black, in a white world! That's TV. Then you have the black/white tag team movies. The brotha does the same stunts, lines, and moves, yet he is always second on the billing, and can't get the girl. What's worse, he is likely to die before the end of the movie. He'll be dead while the white hero rides into the sunset!

I say all of this to establish

black or other minority concentrates too much on their own race, is crazy. As it is we have been seduced into thinking that the world started with imperial racism. The media as a whole, reports negative stories to en-

THE HAWK"

shark frenzy.

They call it politics. Because the art of getting what you want as an elected official, means being able to schmooze and smaltz with your counterparts. To excel at being a politician, you have to go an extra mile to gamer support for what you want.

Oftentimes it means being able to compromise when necessary and to convince your peers that it is in their best interest to vote your way because of something you can or have done in return for them lately.

In that regards, the consumate African-American political figure at the local level is personified in none other than Las Vegas City Councilman Frank Hawkins. We should definitely give Frank his "propers". The Hawk is good. He has a razor-sharp mind and he knows how to play the game of politics like a violin virtuoso plays his Stratavarius.

As an example, the powers that be are getting ready to redesign the Spaghetti Bowl. You know, the treacherous freeway interchange near downtown with an offramp on Martin Luther King Boulevard. Well, the original plan was to eliminate the MLK exit, forcing motorists wanting to go to West Las Vegas to exit miles away and then turn around and come back.

The latest is that due to Councilman Hawkins' extensive politiking, the MLK offramp to the Westside has been preserved in the near finished plans.

That's only one of many political coups The Hawk has raked up in his short career as an elected official. He recently lobbied for, and won, a berth on the Las Vegas City Housing Authority Board, becoming the first elected official to receive such an appointment. (See The Ray Willis Report, Page 10)



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