

Jesse Jackson Would Consider White House Run

WASHINGTON - Civil rights activist Jesse Jackson Wednesday said he might consider running for president in 1996 as an independent

candidate.

Jackson told CNN's "Larry King Live," hosted by former New York Governor Mario Cuomo, that running as an independent would buy him more time since only four states required independent candidates to file their data before July 1996.

He said running as a Democrat would be "tough because (President Clinton) controls the apparatus," adding,

"perhaps the best way to get a permanent place at the table for workers, those in the cities, is to open the process up."

But Jackson said his first option was to continue urging Clinton to provide economic stimulus for inner cities and help America's youth.

"You can't duck those issues. You've got to tackle them," he said.

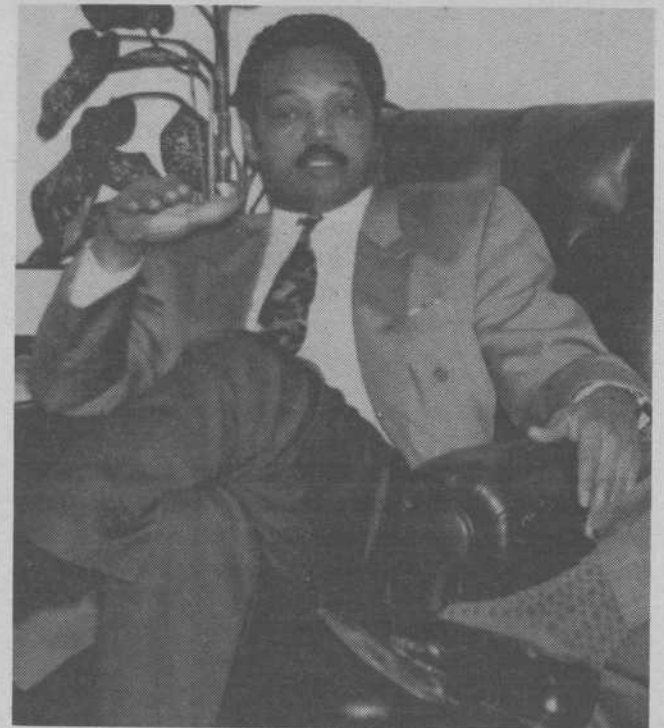
The black leader in May said he was still considering a presidential bid.

Jackson made two earlier tries for the Democratic presidential nomination and in 1988, was the runner up to nominee Michael Dukakis in 1988 with over 6.6 million primary votes, beating out other prominent Democrats, including now-vice president Al Gore.

Retired lieutenant colonel Oliver North, a key figure in the Iran-Contra scandal and unsuccessful candidate in the 1994 Senate election, said Jackson's candidacy as an independent would "almost ensure" a win for the Republican candidate.

North, who also appeared on "Larry King Live" program, said he would not endorse former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Colin Powell as a candidate for the Republican nomination if he decided to get in the fray.

But he said he would "reluctantly endorse" Powell if he won the GOP nomination, noting he did not know what Powell stood for and the retired military commander had failed to endorse him in his bid for the Virginia Senate seat.



JESSE JACKSON

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ACLU Sounds Warning On Police Use Of Pepper Spray

LOS ANGELES - The ACLU of Southern California on Sunday released a report detailing 26 deaths from the use of pepper spray by police, and a spokesman said state officials have ignored the chemical's

dangers.

Alan Parachini, who wrote the report for the ACLU, said the 26 deaths since 1993 represent one for every 600 police incidents.

"Our examination of hundreds of state documents and memos proves that Department of Justice officials understood the likely dangers in using pepper spray and did nothing," he said. Parachini said pepper spray, when used properly, is an effective way to subdue violent suspects.

"When used improperly and along with other dangerous types of police restraints, it is clear that

fatal outcomes can result," he said, especially for those with heart or respiratory diseases.

The ACLU has filed a petition with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission urging federal regulations on pepper spray — known scientifically as Oleoresin Capsicum — for both police and public uses.

John Crew, an ACLU attorney, said state health officials as early as 1991 sent letters to the Justice Department and Attorney General Dan Lungren detailing the dangers of the spray. But those letters were ignored no action has yet been taken, he said, and law

enforcement agencies continue to use the chemical as they have in the past.

"The ACLU research convinces us that many, if not most, of these deaths are avoidable," Crew said. "We call on all California law enforcement agencies to review without delay their policies and training on pepper spray and to consider adopting the ACLU's policy models."

He said that, if current statistical trends identified in the report continue, "California can expect a new death involving police use of pepper spray on average every 24 days."

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