

Nationalism

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group that encompasses all the ingredients of nationality and strikes few sympathetic chords with the (integration program) of the NAACP."

What is needed today, more than ever, to aid in our quest for independence, liberation, freedom and justice is a total return in our organizing and mobilizing efforts toward a program of Black Nationalism.

A great Black Nationalist unity is needed among those who profess to be Black Nationalists. This is urgently needed to save African people in America who appear to be doomed if we fail to wake up!

As Africans in America, we must understand that we can't rely on the deeds of one individual, or one organization to solve the problems we face in this country. We must rely on the collective efforts of all our organizations who understand the need to struggle for self-determination and Black Nationalism.

In other words, we need a collective Black Nationalist program that strives toward 1) economic self-sufficiency; 2) reciprocity and mutual exchange with African people all over the world; 3) cultural unity; 4) and the building of a governance system that will protect the interests of the African world.

In terms of concrete steps, we must build linkages of cooperation and mutual exchange with African people wherever we are and move toward developing the economic independence which is so vitally needed for the attainment of a free people.

We must control and protect what we create, that is, we must control all aspects of our culture. Our songs, dances, writings, and art must be protected from hostile and thieving aliens.

No longer should other races and ethnic groups define who we are and what we should do. We must raise our own questions about our own circumstances and conditions that lead to our own solutions.

Ultimately, we need a world union of African people dedicated and committed to the protection and development of the "African World Order."

Again, Martin Delany explained, "But we have been, by our oppressors, despoiled of our purity, and corrupted in our native characteristics, so that we have inherited their vices, and but few of their virtues, leaving us in character, really a broken people."

We must return to a program of self determination and Black Nationalism if we are ever going to break the chains of white supremacy and white domination. This should be clear to all those seeking our true emancipation as a people.

Dr. Womill is the national chairman of the National Black United Front (NBUF).

President's national security choices send ominous signal

By John William Templeton
Special to Sentinel-Voice

The announcement of President Clinton's new national security team is an ominous sign for African-Americans waiting to see if their support of the incumbent would be reflected in his personnel and policy choices. Except for Republican Sen. William Cohen of Maine, Clinton chose to retain holdovers who have embraced policies that have viewed American interests as an expression of 1890s-style white supremacy instead of adjusting to the emerging interests of developing countries, particularly in Africa and the Caribbean. If memory serves us correctly, the Republicans were attempting to kick Clinton out of the White House and most African-Americans who voted supported Clinton's re-election.

Yet Clinton has either caved to the prospect of a 55-member Republican Senate, or the president is continuing his election campaign style of running as a Republican lite. So African-Americans like Donald McHenry, William Clay, Andrew Young, Jesse Jackson, Togo West, Clifford Alexander, J. Bruce Lewellyn, Julius Becton and Colin Powell — with solid diplomatic and national security credentials ranging from service at the United Nations to pulling off an Olympic Games or running a war — were never even considered for a job.

The argument that African-Americans have to wait their turn to make a difference in foreign policy should have been laid to rest by the stellar impact of Commerce Secretary Ron Brown, who filled in the vacuum at the State Department with commercial diplomacy. If Madeline Albright is confirmed, she will be the second Secretary of State (after Henry Kissinger) not even born in this country. A more compelling argument is that the racism in the U.S. foreign policy establishment requires a thorough house-cleaning. A suit by black employees of the U.S. State Department remains unsettled after 10 years, including four years of the Clinton administration. The percentage of black Foreign Service officers has actually declined during that

period. Looming over the entire foreign policy and intelligence apparatus is the ugly spectre of the potential involvement/connivance of U.S. officials in the drug trade, not only from Nicaragua but also from East Asia. Mere days after addressing African-American residents of south central Los Angeles, angered by the CIA-crack revelations from the *San Jose Mercury News*, Clinton sacked CIA director John Deutch, who had promised a thorough investigation. Although most Los Angelenos didn't believe Deutch, his departure raises even more eyebrows.

The policies of the last administration that cause concern include:

- The impact of free trade initiatives on the Caribbean.
- Tightening the blockade on Cuba, the nation whose soldiers made the end of apartheid possible.
- Strong-arm tactics to force out the first African secretary-general of the United Nations.
- Neglect of the African continent by top policy-makers until there is a crisis
- Restrictions on travel for Minister Louis Farrakhan and other outspoken African-Americans.

Just as the appointments were announced, news came that oil would be shipped from Iraq in order to meet humanitarian needs. These were the same needs that Minister Louis Farrakhan spoke of during his controversial tour of Africa and the Middle East.

The precedent of attempting to proscribe the views and travels of a religious leader is an unsettling one, that should concern even those who might disagree with particular positions. There was no such proscription on the 50 international oil companies who lined up to bid for Iraqi crude.

A lack of diversity in national security circles means that such contradictions are not pointed out and that the voice for the voiceless is not heard. For national security issues and African-Americans, the trend is backwards.

From roles of national security advisor, and chairman

of the Joint Chiefs of Staff held by Gen. Colin Powell during the Reagan and Bush administrations to Clinton's initial appointment of Dr. Clifton Wharton, a second generation diplomat, as Deputy Secretary of State, these choices return us to near-invisibility, save for the presence of Rep. Ron Dellums as ranking Democrat on the National Security Committee of the House of Representatives. His name should have come up before Sen. Cohen's for the Secretary of Defense slot. Dellums' predecessor Rep. Les Aspin got an opportunity to fill the post. With jobs such as Treasury Secretary, Attorney General and the Federal Reserve chairmanship already filled, the declining African-Americans in the cabinet will be further shunted into less prestigious posts. The lack of imagination makes us wonder

about such jobs as assistant attorney general for Civil Rights. Will Clinton try to find a Republican for that slot who can win nomination by the Senate?

We should resist the temptation to relax in our advocacy behind such organizations as TransAfrica and the Constituency for Africa. The domestic policy implications of a warped national security establishment include shutting off access between African-Americans and the opportunities created by privatization and restructuring in Africa and the Caribbean. We should never take those ties for granted, even with South Africa.

Increasingly our fates are intertwined in the global economy. Although the Ronald Brown era has been put to rest by the Clinton choices, we can still pick up his torch and carry it forward.

Real Estate

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acceptable to the seller? Why is the seller selling? Has the seller already bought another home and now has to make two expensive mortgage payments? Is there any flexibility in the seller's price? Has the seller been transferred?

There's more to an offer than the price. By finding out as much as possible about the seller's situation, you may be able to offer the seller a benefit, such as a quick closing, in exchange for a price concession and a smart

investment!

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you a God blessed Merry Christmas and the best for a Happy New Year. As always, please contact a professional for all your Real Estate needs or write to me c/o Real Estate Perspective, Las Vegas Sentinel Voice Newspaper, 900 East Charleston, Las Vegas, Nevada, 89104.

Loretta Arrington Hall, Owner/Broker, Arrington & Associates Realty Company.

South

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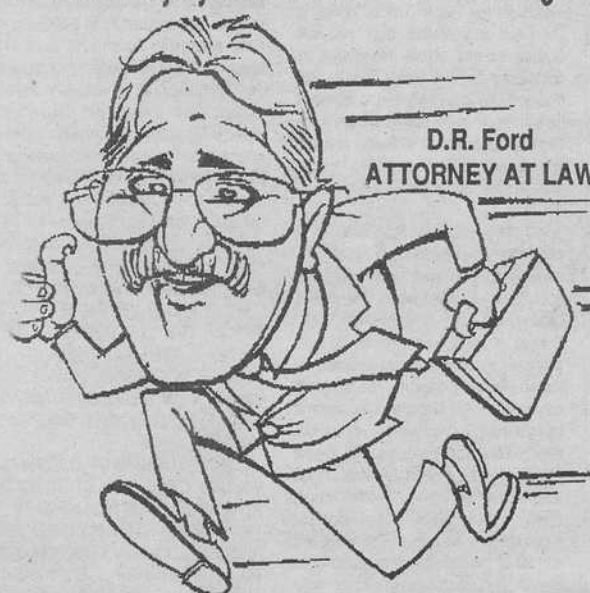
And Ned Crosby, whose great-grandfather also fought for the Confederacy, said, "the Confederate flag is a symbol of the chains of slavery to many people black and white. We can not hide from the historical fact that the banner was lifted up to keep millions of our black brothers in the chains of slavery."

These men have seen that the Confederate flag has a symbolism which continues to be effectively used to promote an attitude of white supremacy and acts of violence. That is not the kind of attitude South Carolina, which has aggressively and successfully recruited domestic and foreign-owned corporations, can afford. That is one reason Gov. Beasley's proposal has drawn support from the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce and the Palmetto Business Forum, which include the chief executives of leading South Carolina companies; and why it's also backed by Senator Strom Thurmond, Representative Bob Inglis, and five former governors. They know that Gov. Beasley is seeking common ground and reconciliation.

We at the Columbia Urban League realize that, too. Our board of directors, which is racially mixed, stated in a letter to the Governor "that for the sake of our children, we need to find an honorable way to resolve this matter and in the process openly discuss the concerns and fears that pull us apart."

The disagreements about the Confederate banner remain. But Gov. Beasley's decisiveness is the right step forward. He has shown that compromise can be a conduit for positive change.

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