

Letter

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date their meager abilities. I can't imagine the national NAACP going to court during the civil rights era in order to keep black students from being able to compete at the same level as everyone else.

Our entire history has been one of struggle, perseverance, and dogged determination to show that we are every bit as capable as any other group of people. Do you think that Malcolm X or Martin King would oppose raising standards because black students aren't capable enough? I certainly don't think so!

Dilemma

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tion Afghanistan is suffering?

The Taliban's policies, especially against women, are not endorsed here. But its members are hardened war veterans, having fought incursions into their land for decades, just like the Vietnamese did. In addition, the American military has limited experience fighting in the harsh terrain of Afghanistan. When you are a foreigner in someone else's land, you are immediately at a disadvantage, no matter how advanced the technology, as America also learned in Vietnam.

Many people these days feel that America is in a no-win situation. Why?

One, a handful of people has America's economy in almost total disarray, compounded with collective anthrax paranoia across the country. No one would have ever thought that was possible.

Second, no matter whether Osama bin Laden is captured or killed, he is considered a hero in much of the Arab/Islamic world. Like it or not, young recruits are joining his cause. It's like a spiraling circle with no end.

Third, the continuous bombing of an impoverished

The University Regents will decide in early December whether to raise the entrance GPA. Between now and then I urge you to research the issue and ask yourself just what Assemblyman Williams and Regent Howard are implying about black students (indeed about all of us) when they argue that raising standards discriminates against blacks.

Call or write the Southern Nevada Regents and let them know that you believe in black students, and that you won't stand for anyone insulting our children.

Rainier Spencer, Ph.D. is an Associate Dean at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

people and their land, no matter the reason or justification, is not endearing America to some of its closest friends and allies. Global calls and demonstrations against the bombing grow constantly.

If America does not change its Middle Eastern policy toward fairness rather than the one-sidedness it now practices, the nucleus of the problem will remain.

Russia learned this lesson when it lost 15,000 soldiers in Afghanistan, which contributed to the breakup of the Soviet Union.

This so-called war is not going to solve the problem, but inflate it.

Consistent development, elimination of hunger, medical assistance, educational growth, as unattractive as those may sound to some, are really the remedies that will deflate most of the hostility.

Those are the real human factors American strategists must factor in, or, who knows what is next?

Kwaku Person-Lynn is author of "First Word: Black Scholars, Thinkers, Warriors."

War Policy

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Bush's leadership. The panel-consisting of Howard law school's Nkechi Taifa, activists Ron Daniels and Damu Smith, attorney J. Clay Smith, Sylvia Hill, your truly and others—clearly opened up large questions about where we are, which went back to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s opposition to the Vietnam War, to questions of COINTEL-PRO, the counter-insurgency program fashioned by J. Edgar Hoover to disrupt Black organizations during the Civil Rights movement, to the questionable legal basis for the pursuit of the war, to the American arrogance of power toward Arabs historically, to the lenient treatment by this government of White domestic terrorists and the like.

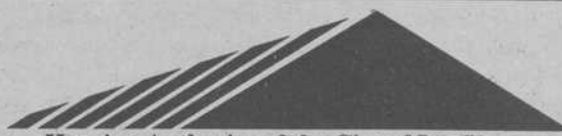
Another such "Town Hall" meeting was organized played to an overflow audience at Howard University on Oct. 23, organized by the Black Leadership Forum, representing 25 of the top Black organizations and the CBC delegation at Conference Against Racism held in Durban, South Africa, in early September. This panel—organized by Forum CEO Yvonne Scruggs-Leftwich and Melanie Campbell, head of the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation—featured the loquacious Julianne Malveaux, William Spriggs of the National Urban League, Adoua Aiyetoro, a leader of the African Descendant Caucus at Durban, and others. It pointed out that the Durban Conference was exceedingly successful; that the American government was unable to derail the success by leaving, and that the American press was abominably narrow in its coverage.

On the other coast, 3,000 people of all races demonstrated their support of Rep. Barbara Lee, D-Calif., on Oct. 22. She was the only person to vote against HJ Res. 23, granting Bush unlimited authority to pursue the war. And since then, I have traveled to many places such as Detroit, Mich., where the Rev. Wendell Anthony, pastor of Friendship Chapel Baptist Church, hosted Rep. John Conyers, D-Mich. and I in a Sunday service of 2,000 people on Oct. 28, expressed support for a version of American patriotism questioning the strategy of a long term war in the Middle East.

Add to that negative Black attitudes flowing freely on Black talk radio toward the recently signed Patriotism Act, which limits American civil liberties, and you have additional reasons why Bush's war policy is in deep and serious trouble with Blacks—and growing.

Dr. Ron Walters, a distinguished leadership scholar at the University of Maryland College Park, is co-author of "African American Leadership."

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ENGINEER

The Las Vegas Valley Water District

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The Las Vegas Valley Water District has an opening on its team for an Energy Analyst. The major responsibilities of this position include the completion of resource planning, analysis and forecasting requiring the use of judgment and initiative in developing solutions to problems, interpreting policies and determining work assignments. Incumbent is responsible for analyzing existing energy source contracts and determining more cost effective energy sources and supplies; administers complex professional engineering work requiring a substantial level of professional training and experience. Incumbent may participate in the negotiations with energy providers for the purchase of capacity and energy. Incumbent may oversee, coordinate and review the work of professional, technical or field personnel.

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1001 S. Valley View Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89153

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NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP NO. P02001

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All qualified entities are encouraged to submit

Proposals as outlined below:

LVHA CONTACT PERSON: Michael Gifford
Telephone No: (702) 386-2973
Fax No.: (702) 922-6648

RFP DOCUMENT PICKUP AND SUBMITTAL RETURN: LVHA Contracts Office
425 #C N. 11th Street
Las Vegas, NV 89101 or
*Via Facsimile at (702) 922-6648
(*Request of RFP Documents Only; Proposals will not be accepted via fax or e-mail)

PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE: Time: 2:00 p.m.
Date: Tuesday, November 20, 2001
Location: Howard Cannon Ctr. Conf. Rm
340 North 11th Street
Las Vegas, NV 89101

RFP PICK-UP DEADLINE: Time: 4:00 p.m.
Date: Friday, December 7, 2001

PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL DEADLINE: Date: Wednesday, Dec. 12, 2001
(The Proposal submittal must be received in-hand and time-stamped in by the LVHA Contracts Office by no later than 4:00 p.m. on this date).

(Minority and/or women-owned businesses are encouraged to submit Proposals)
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