

Activist explains his 'exterminate Whites' comment

By Cash Michaels

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RALEIGH, N.C. (NNPA) - It was last month during a pre-Millions More Movement conference in Washington, D.C. about improving Black media and activist communications in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, that Kamau Kambon's world was turned upside down.

Activists at the televised "Pro-Black Media Forum" held at Howard University hammered home the same message — after the horrendous events surrounding Hurricane Katrina, African-Americans dare not trust the government again, and had better regain control over their communities and destinies.

But Kambon, one of the invited speakers, angered by what he believed was a continuation of hundreds of years of White oppression of Black people without redress, and sickened by the self-genocide of the community he loves so much, stunned those gathered, and thousands more watching live on C-SPAN, with the following:

"...They're monitoring our people to try to prevent the one person from coming up with the one idea. And the one idea is, how we are going to exterminate White people, because that in my estimation is the only conclusion I have come to. We have to exterminate White people off the face of the planet to solve this problem."

After a scattering of applause, the college professor and Black Raleigh bookstore owner continued, "I don't care whether you clap or not, but I'm saying to you that we need to solve this problem because they are going to kill us."

He reiterated the point by declaring, "White people want to kill us."

When Kambon, a quiet, well-studied apolitical man who is unaffiliated with any group, religion or cause, used that term on television, intended or otherwise, it ignited a firestorm of national controversy that he neither expected, nor intended.

He was a visiting professor at North Carolina State University. They wanted him immediately fired. The school issued a statement distancing itself from the educator. He is no longer there.

Radio talk shows across the nation picked up on the controversy, and phone banks were jammed with angry White listeners. Conservative bloggers, still smarting from defending former

U.S. Education Secretary Bill Bennett's abort "every Black baby" remark, spun the story to portray Kambon as "Black racist No. 1."

Even Black leaders were called to task to publicly denounce Kambon's remarks.

There were also calls of support from around the country, however, particularly from young people. They encouraged Kambon to respond, to say something before his remarks were further distorted.

That time came last week at the Bennu Cultural Center. He felt the media ran wild with the "exterminate" line reported out of context.

In a seven-page statement that was videotaped for later distribution and put on www.blacknificent.com, Kambon set out to not only respond to critics, but even to those who didn't understand what he said he was saying.

Kambon explained the context and content of his comments:

"I made a statement on a panel in Washington, D.C., on October 14, 2005, and today I am prepared to bring remarks on my original comments," he told a select audience of community supporters.

"My official statement today is that I speak for no one."

Using that as his recurring theme, Kambon said he "spoke for no one" — except "the ancient Afrikans of Kemet — the original name that was changed by the Greeks of Egypt — who were invaded and murdered in mass numbers over the course of centuries" by several peoples, including the Arabs, French, British and Romans.

"I speak for no one — except for the millions of Afrikan men in those dungeons who refused to submit and were put three to four in a cell and were left there for all of the other enslaved Afrikans to see them die a slow and painful death," Kambon wrote. "The millions of Afrikan women who were selected by the White commander of the dungeon to be raped repeatedly and sometimes left to die in their own blood."

As Kambon, the author of several books on Black history, Black genocide and other topics about how Black people struggle to overcome the horror of their history, sees it, there has been no historic redress for the millions of "enslaved" Africans, brought from their motherland of Africa, chained in

great number in cramped, dark and inhuman conditions in the belly of slave ships.

"I speak for no one — except for all of the Afrikans who arrived in North America bewildered, brutalized, weak, robbed of their culture, language, religions, families, cosmologies and longing for their own homeland," Kambon said.

Kambon went on to cite heroes of Black history such as Harriet Tubman, Ida B Wells, W.E.B. DuBois and Frederick Douglass "...and all Black people who begged and petitioned the American government to intercede to stop White people from wanton beatings, murdering, lynching, raping and terrorizing of Black men, Black women and Black children. The government did nothing. The deaths continued."

Kambon even paid tribute to the thousands of Black soldiers "who gave their lives" in every war of this nation, "only to return to their America and be lynched

physically, economically or socially, while wearing their U.S. uniforms as White people sang "America the Beautiful."

He also noted more than 2,000 lynchings of Black people at the turn of the 19th century.

And Kambon didn't forget North Carolina history.

"I speak for no one — except for the many men, women and children who were murdered in Wilmington, N.C., and Tulsa, Okla., both considered 'Black Wall Streets,' and [those people who had] their land stolen from them with the sanction of the American government."

He referenced the 7,600 Black and poor women in North Carolina, and [31] other states, who were sterilized without their knowledge or permission in clinics as part of the population control program. These sterilizations went on from 1929 to 1974, and 65,000 Black and poor women — in this country —

were sterilized during this period.

Kambon also noted the infamous Tuskegee experiments conducted by the federal government, where Black men with syphilis were allowed to die over a 40-year period.

Kambon noted many other atrocities put upon Black people and their leaders throughout history that have never been redressed, though many have asked. He talked further about Black babies dying because of poor nutrition; the millions of Black men and women behind bars; elderly Black people not able to make ends meet and forced to give up their properties; the generations of Black people in Africa dying of AIDS.

The "Black Holocaust" is still going on, Kambon said.

"Some have asked White people, referring to the government and corporations, to just consider talking about reparations, and those requests have fallen on deaf

ears," he writes. "Why are White people not listening to, and implementing the suggestions of all the civic groups trying to advance the social, economic, educational, health and cultural concerns of Black people?"

"I speak for no one — except for my ancestors, our dead, and for myself, and I am saying that I don't even know half of the true history of Black people, but I have seen and know enough to be able to say, 'The war and genocide against Black people, in all of the areas of life activity, worldwide, must stop.'"

In further remarks to his audience, Kambon admitted that Black people are in no position to do what he said on Oct. 14, and that his remarks were more a reference to if something isn't done to stop the genocide of Blacks at the hands of Whites, "we'll be wiped off the face of the Earth."

Cash Michaels writes for *The Carolinian*.

Your Horoscope Says... Nov. 17-23

ARIES

Your self-confidence may be misread this week, so push the modesty button around a close friend or business associate. Live and let live. Forgive and forget. Spend some time alone to avoid drama.

Soul Affirmation: My love for myself is the most important love for me to have.

Lucky Numbers: 12, 52, 53

TAURUS

Work calls and you're not completely happy with current divisions of labor. Do more than your part as a member of the team and you'll be glad that you did. Your reward will come from someone who also did more than his or her part.

Soul Affirmation: Generosity of spirit brings generosity to me.

Lucky Numbers: 17, 24, 51

GEMINI

Business looks good this week as you discover a new way of increasing exposure to your product — even if the product is you. Let hope and optimism lead me into new beginnings and fresh starts. All vibes are good. Go!

Soul Affirmation: When I feel good about myself, the world feels good to me.

Lucky Numbers: 9, 10, 30

CANCER

If you seem spaced out this week don't worry about it. Fill your mind with a vision of love for the entire planet. Use your gifts to assist others in seeing the world as you do — in glorious color. Check the details on paperwork that you have to do, dreamer.

Soul Affirmation: The calm inside creates the space that I can fill with love.

Lucky Numbers: 1, 23, 35

LEO

Early each day vibrations could cause you to slow down. That's good, because slowing down is just what you need. Remember to think of the positive. Reject the negative and you'll have a wonderful week.

Soul Affirmation: The slowness of my week gives me time to refresh my energy.

Lucky Numbers: 12, 34, 42

VIRGO

Rev up your engines. This is a fine week for making progress with projects that you've got in the works. Your energy is high and your mind is clear. Use every advantage this week to finish up your works.

Soul Affirmation: High energy and clear mind gives me the winning edge.

Lucky Numbers: 3, 41, 50

LIBRA

Confusion exists over some question. And every time you think you've got the answer, circumstances will change and new information will come to your attention. Don't worry, things are going to clear up and work out. Take it easy.

Soul Affirmation: Worry will only create more worry. I stop all worry.

Lucky Numbers: 6, 13, 51

SCORPIO

Lots of wild ideas may occur to you this week, and you may want to act the mental daredevil. Be patient with those who are just learning or who want to do things the way they've always done them. Lead by example.

Soul Affirmation: I will be cool in

the face of intense heat.

Lucky Numbers: 31, 39, 43

SAGITTARIUS

Communications flow smoothly this week, and your intuition is high. A wild idea for money making could come to you, but you should let it walk on by. Stick to your current plan and use your imagination for ways to streamline your work.

Soul Affirmation: Slow and steady is an enjoyable way to go.

Lucky Numbers: 16, 28, 29

CAPRICORN

Creative mental energy makes this a banner week for you. An ambition that you thought you had left behind years ago suddenly resurfaces, and you'll see similarities between what you are doing now and what you dreamed of back then. Enjoy!

Soul Affirmation: I enjoy living in my dream.

Lucky Numbers: 8, 14, 55

AQUARIUS

Give your busy brain a rest and work your body this week. It's a great week for physical activity that can loosen up muscles and relieve tensions. You'll receive some practical advice from a distant relative.

Soul Affirmation: I let my mind go slack and tighten up my body.

Lucky Numbers: 46, 49, 52

PISCES

Family responsibilities may feel like a chore this week. If you relinquish control of the situation, a natural order will occur, and things will organize themselves. You can let people be who they are.

Soul Affirmation: I let go and let the spirit run my life this week.

Lucky Numbers: 4, 35, 39