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by ISAIAH EDWARDS

A Report To The People

This is True:

Another observation on my trip with The Grand Master, Chas. D. Stubblefield to the Far East - I had a chance to slip away from the orders of the day, with one of the finest couples I've ever met - Illustrious Potentate H.C. Wiggins, and his beautiful wife, Sister Jackie Wiggins, worthy Matron of Grace, Chapter #31, O.E.S. They picked me up, and carried me for a quick tour of Clark Air Force Base. It covers an area of some 75 miles. It is completely facilitated in every respect. In one of its remote corners was an encampment of a dwarfish Black People, selling their wares, all made by hand: knives, guns, swords, pots, pans, etc. One would believe these items had been machined. These people, I was told, are the original Filipinos' of the Philippines Isl. having migrated here centuries ago from Africa. But today, they have become the forgotten man, and are the out cast of the Filipino society. They are dwarfish in size, very dark complexed, with curly hair. They are fenced in, and are forced to live off the yield of the hand. I was impressed with their craftsmanship, but found it difficult to communicate with them. Time was flecting, and for illustrious Potentate and wife, and I we had to attend our Grand Master's Ball, a few hours hence.

Until then, This is True. Will see you next week.


by Jody McCrackin

Facking With McCrackin

30 YEARS OF STUMBLING IN EDUCATIONAL CIRCLES

None of our high school students and not all of our teachers were born when we were supposed to have begun our March to the Promised Land.

Instead of a forward march however, it has been little more than a march around in circles. It has been this way for Blacks, for Whites, for the Federal Government, State Governments, School Boards, School Administrators, Students, and Families. Many of us over 40 years of age recall that the first step toward desegregation of the public schools came in 1954 with the decision of the Supreme Court in Brown V. Board of Education of Topeka, which ended the ability of states to restrict the rights of Black Americans. But 30 years after Brown, remedies against segregation are still largely voluntary and ineffective. Hardly any progress at all was made for 10 years, but in 1971, judicial rulings did call for mandatory pupil-assignment plans through busing. This was primarily the result of Psychologist Kenneth B. Clark's testimony in the Brown Decision in which he argued that successful desegregation of the public schools would depend on five things: Firm pronouncements of the new policies by the nation's leaders, firm enforcement of the policies, a willingness to deal with violations, a refusal to tolerate subterfuges, and an appeal to those concerned in terms of their principles and the traditions of fair play. 20 years after Brown, the Civil Rights Commission examined racial isolation in public schools and found that 90 percent of all Black Students still attended schools with a majority Black enrollment, while Whites in the same grades in the same cities attended schools with nearly 100 percent White enrollment.

By 1980, however, the figures had improved somewhat, to the extent that 43 percent attended majority White schools. More importantly, however, those studies of 1980 revealed that the achievement level of those Black children attending majority White schools had improved, and that the achievement levels of White students in those schools had also risen or stayed the same. Thus, all available evidence suggest that there is significant merit in consistent enforcement of desegregation laws, and that we may be able to get out of that circle and succeed in a straight forward March to the Promised Land by staying about the business of enforcement instead of retreating as we have done since 1980.

Stay with us.



Another Point Of View

by GEORGE BURNEY

To all you professional athletes, who are retired, please don't talk about making comebacks, just let the public remember you the way you were. One may look at a pro athletes as America's heros, and for the young children who are coming along, it may be hard for them to understand certain ideas and theories.

Two weeks ago, Sugar Ray Leonard, former welter weight champion made his come back into the ring against Kevin Howard, Leonard who won the fight was not very impressive and after being knocked down for the first time in his career it was then he decided to call it quits for good, well, you never know people change their minds.

There was money laid down on the fight, big money; there was even talk of another rematch between Thomas Hearn and Leonard.; and that's exactly what it is - all talk. Ray Leonard did not sustain an eye injury during the fight, which was his reason for retiring in the first place. Leonard had surgery to replace a damage eye retina.

After Leonards comeback, he lost some respect some times, it is best to leave well enough along especially when you win or top. What more is there? Why try to prove anything?

K-Fox 1250 am

FROM THE FRONT

NATIONAL BLACK UNITED FRONT

BALDWIN DEATH INQUEST BEGINS

An inquest into the shooting death of Robert L. Baldwin began on May 14th in Rm.711 of the King County Court House, where Judge Philip Fillien is presiding. The purpose of this inquiry is supposedly to determine if the police officers involved were justified in shooting Robert L. Baldwin to death.

Robert Baldwin, who was killed on March 28, 1984 was being sought for the killing of King County Police Officer Michael Raburn who, along with John Ryan, another officer, attempted to evict Baldwin from his apartment. Baldwin was never tried or convicted of this crime, though he was eventually executed for it.

Conscious members of the Black community know the truth, but few are doing anything about it. The so-called bona fide leaders of the Black community are silent on the issue. Meanwhile, the National Black United Front (NBUF) Seattle chapter, and the African People's Socialist Party (APSP) are taking action. First of all, there is constant vigilance of the courtroom proceedings; also, a Black Community Control Committee has been created to deal with future problems. Both NBUF and APSP have combined their resources to combat these injustices.

During our observations of the inquest that is now a week old, several things are readily apparent. One is that no matter how far we have come legally, there are still times when an all-white jury servces its purpose, as is the case now. Secondly, the discrepancies in police testimony provide overwhelming evidence that all was not legitimate concerning the Robert Baldwin shooting.

Robert L. Baldwin is dead, but his death need not be in vain. We can best pay tribute to him by joining an organization (preferably an all Black one) that is working to change those conditions that led to the death of Baldwin and the continued misery of others. Some members of the community are talking about creating a Robert L. Baldwin Crisis Fund, which could raise money and help Black people and their allies in times of crisis, such as evictions, and possibly publish a newsletter advising community residents of rights and/or help centers.

For those interested in working with the Black Community Control Committee or other concerned organizations to bring about changes in those conditions that were responsible for the death of Robert Baldwin, call NBUF at 323-0229.

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THE FACTS is 23 years old and has a readership of over 40,000.

Masons donate grand to school

by WM Leslie Bullock

Members of HMC's King Solomon Lodge No. 62 presented $1000 to the Argonner School last week.

In a presentation ceremony in the community commander's office, Leslie Bullock, Worshipful Master of the Lodge, turned the check over to Dodie Thorsen, acting principal of the school.

The lodge, which holds meetings at the school every first and third Saturday at 10 a.m., has become special to the school, according to Thorsen.

"The group is really part of the school," Thorsen said. "They have painted the cafeteria, and are considering becoming huggers for our participation in the Special Olympics." Huggers are persons who assist in the activity, which is for mentally and physically handicapped children.

This $1000 has been earmarked to buy a computer for the special education classes, Thorsen said.

"The kids are really excited about it," she said. "I think this is enough money to even pay for the cart for the computer."

Bullock said the group, made up of 30 members in-country, held various activities to raise the money.

"This money came from discos, dues and donations," Bullock said.

Previous donations from the lodge have gone to buying occupational therapy equipment for the school's special education P.E. classes and they have made donations to Francois Chapel.

"We hope others will see what we're doing and get involved themselves in helping the community," Bullock said.

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