

AM-CBC-Civil Rights, 1st Ld-Writethru, a0680,760

Black Caucus Faults Clinton on Civil Rights

Eds: INSERTS three grafs after 4th graf pvs bgng: 'It begs' with White House defense; SUBS 15th-16th grafs bgng 'The complaints' to UPDATE with post-White House meeting comments. Picks up 17th graf pvs bgng 'Mfume said'

By SONYA ROSS= Associated Press Writer=

WASHINGTON (AP) Black members of Congress accused President Clinton Wednesday of failing to combat rising American racism and said he lacks a civil rights policy.

The politicians and other prominent blacks attending the Congressional Black Caucus' annual meeting also pointed to bittersweet census figures that told of solid educational progress among blacks, but dimmer prospects for a better life overall.

The caucus said Clinton's positions on foreign policy, housing, crime and the North American Free Trade Agreement all pose problems for blacks.

'It begs the question: Where are we as a people? And what flag of registry does this ship of state fly?' asked Rep. Kweisi Mfume, D-Md., the caucus chairman. 'We are, at this moment, a nation in grave distress.'

The White House defended its record, citing its appointment of blacks to the administration and the passage of the earned income tax credit, the National Service Act and business 'empowerment zones' for inner cities.

The administration also noted that it created a capital financing program for historically black colleges, which provides federal backing for loans used for repairing or building black college facilities.

And, it cited Housing Secretary Henry Cisneros' plan to oust county housing authority officials in Vidor, Texas, for maintaining segregated housing projects there.

Timed for the caucus' gathering, the Census Bureau reported Wednesday that more black Americans got college degrees in the 1980s, but they still receive lower pay than white graduates for many jobs.

Census figures show the number of black men 25 and over with at least a bachelor's degree rose from 7.7 percent in 1980 to 11.9 percent in 1992. Among black women, the rate rose from 8.1 percent to 12 percent.

But the annual median salary for black college graduates was \$30,910, while the median salary for white college graduates was \$37,490.

A larger proportion of white men than black men were employed in executive, administrative and managerial jobs, 32 percent to 26 percent. Black male college graduates in these fields were paid about 77 percent of the amount earned by white male college grads.

Also, 30 percent of black families were poor, with unemployment rates for blacks running more than twice that of whites, 14 percent to 6 percent.

'Our condition has always been two-fold: too much poverty, not enough self-love,' said Cornel West, professor of black and religious studies at Princeton University. 'We've been between a rock and a hard place since we've been here.'

That's why Clinton needs to take an immediate, firm stance on civil rights enforcement, said Lani Guinier, the former NAACP litigator whose nomination to head the Justice Department's civil rights division was abandoned by Clinton.

Clinton has to find another nominee for the Justice slot. He also must fill vacancies at the head of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

But before he does that, Clinton should state unequivocally what his civil rights intentions are, Guinier said.

'We're looking for moral leadership. We're looking for a president who's not afraid to talk about race in a public forum,' Guinier said. 'The entire country is running from this problem.'

The complaints about Clinton's lack of civil rights action came as civil rights activists met at the White House with the president to discuss the

administration's crime bill, NAFTA and the possible loss of jobs under the trade pact.

"We made it very clear that, by and large, we do not support NAFTA," said Jesse Jackson, president of the National Rainbow Coalition. "We are for free trade. We are for expanded trade. We are not for losing textile workers' jobs, and auto workers' jobs."

Jackson said they "put for the case for a social charter" to address environmental and workers' rights issues affected by NAFTA. "He said he would consider it. It was a major step in the right direction."

Mfume said the black caucus does not plan right now to support NAFTA, and will offer its own crime bill, saying Clinton's unfairly expands the number of death penalty crimes.

"We continue to negotiate with this White House on a number of issues ... not because we seek confrontation with the administration, but because we seek to do things in a different way," Mfume said. "This is not a spectator sport. We do not desire box seats. We desire a spot on the playing field."

LOUIS STOKES
11TH DISTRICT, OHIO

MEMBER,
COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEES:
CHAIRMAN,
VA/HUD/INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

MEMBER,
LABOR/HHS/EDUCATION
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3511

September 13, 1993

2385 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3511
(202) 225-7032

DISTRICT OFFICE:
ROOM 2947
NEW FEDERAL OFFICE BUILDING
1240 EAST 9TH STREET
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2140 LEE ROAD
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CLEVELAND HEIGHTS, OH 44118
(216) 522-4907

Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
First Lady
Office of the First Lady
Old Executive Office Building
Room 185 1/2
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

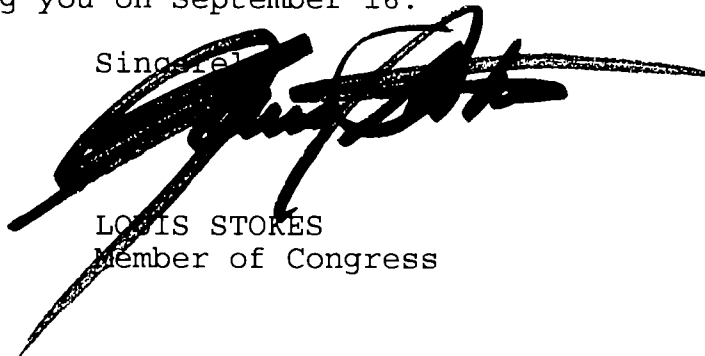
I am pleased to confirm your participation in the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) Health Braintrust on Thursday, September 16, 1993. With the current health crisis in the African American community, we especially welcome the opportunity to have you discuss the Administration's proposal for health care reform and how it will impact our community.

The session entitled "Health Care Reform: What It Means for African Americans" is scheduled from 1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. in 2175 Rayburn Building. It is my understanding that you will join us for the first hour of this meeting. Participating with us will be several members of the Congressional Black Caucus, as well as several hundred members of the Health Braintrust who represent the health leadership of the African American community. I have enclosed a copy of the program for your review.

You will be met at the Rayburn Building horseshoe and escorted to 2176 Rayburn, the anteroom to 2172. If you have any questions or need any assistance, please contact Ms. Leslie Atkinson in my office at 225-7032.

I am honored to have you join me at this event and look forward to seeing you on September 16.

Sincerely,



LOUIS STOKES
Member of Congress

LS/11a

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS HEALTH BRAINTRUST

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1993
(1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.)

Health Care Reform: What It Means To African American

Minority Americans suffer a great burden as illness and death fall disproportionately on their families as compared to white Americans. The incidence of cancer, hypertension, diabetes, AIDS, infant mortality, homicide and chemical dependency, take a devastating toll on our communities. In addition, African Americans and Hispanics account for over 50% of the number of Americans added to the rolls of the uninsured between 1977 and 1987. They are also represented in families at the greatest risk of being uninsured--families where no one is working and that are poor. This symposium will continue the Health Braintrust's deliberations on health care reform in preparation for President Clinton's health care reform proposal.

Presiding:

Congressman Louis Stokes
Chairman, Congressional Black Caucus Health Braintrust

Congressman John Conyers

Congresswoman Eva Clayton

Congressman Bobby Scott

Keynote speaker:

Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton

Moderator:

Dr. Reed Tuckson
President
Charles Drew Medical College

Panelists:

Dr. Phillip Brooks
Chairman, National Black Hospitals Association

Dr. Linda Burnes-Bolton
President, National Black Nurses Association

Dr. Linda Clayton
Harvard University School of Public Health

Dr. Eugene Jordan
President, National Dental Association

Ms. Marie Kostas-Weber

President Clinton's "Faces of Hope" family and parent of child
(deceased) with chronic long-term illness

Dr. Roz Lasker
Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Health
Department of Health and Human Services

Dr. Leonard Lawrence
President, National Medical Association

Dr. Henry Lewis
President, Association of Minority Health Professions Schools

Mr. Henry Nicholas
President, National Union of Hospital and Health Care, AFSCME

Dr. Oscar Saffold
President, Personal Physician Care of Ohio

Mr. Samuel J. Simmons
President, National Caucus and Center for the Black Aged

Dr. Terri Smith-Moore
Executive Vice President, National Pharmaceutical Association

Dr. Helen Smits
Deputy Administrator, Health Care Financing Administration
Department of Health and Human Services

Ms. Jessie Trice
President, National Association of Community Health Centers



News from

CONGRESSMAN LOUIS STOKES

11th District, Ohio



2365 Rayburn H.O.B.
Washington, D.C. 20515

(202) 225-7032

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
SEPTEMBER 13, 1993

CONTACT: JOYCE LARKIN
TRACY STUGER
202/225-7032

**REP. STOKES WILL BE JOINED BY FIRST LADY AS ANNUAL WORKSHOPS
ADDRESS HEALTH CARE REFORM, VIOLENCE AND OTHER ISSUES**

Washington, D.C. -- Congressman Louis Stokes (D-OH), Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus Health Braintrust, announced that his annual Health workshops will be held on Thursday, September 16, 1993, and Friday, September 17, 1993. Featured on this year's program is a **keynote** presentation by **First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton on Health Care Reform.**

Representative Stokes, commenting on the health care reform workshop and the First Lady Hillary Clinton's participation noted that, "The current health crisis in the African American community makes it essential that health care reform address the multi-cultural and racial factors that impact our health status. The future of our community is dependent upon our ability to formulate a health care delivery system that takes these concerns into consideration. The First Lady's appearance before our Health Braintrust indicates the Administration's willingness to work with us to meet the health needs of African Americans."

Other Braintrust sessions will feature discussions on **sickle cell anemia, infant mortality, AIDs, environmental health and violence.** In addition to the participation of Mrs. Clinton, Congressman Stokes has extended invitations to the newly confirmed Surgeon General, Dr. Joycelyn Elders; the Director of the Centers for Disease Control, Dr. David Satcher; and other prominent leaders to join him for the workshops and discussions. A complete agenda follows.

- more -

Congressman Louis Stokes Health Braintrust
Thursday, September 16, 1993

***** Agenda *****

Sickle Cell Anemia: Still Searching for a Cure

Washington Convention Center, Room 32

9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

Panel Moderator: Xernona Clayton, Chairperson
National Association for Sickle Cell Disease

Infant Mortality: The American Tragedy

Washington Convention Center, Room 32

10:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Panel Moderator: Representative Bobby Scott (D-VA)

AIDs in Communities of Color: No Dollars, No Treatment

Washington Convention Center, Room 34

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Panel Moderator: Bev Smith, Host of "Our Voice", Black Entertainment
Television

Health Care Reform: What It Means to African Americans

Capitol Hill, Room 2175 Rayburn House Office Building

1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Keynote address will be delivered by First Lady Hillary Rodham
Clinton.

Panel Moderator: Dr. Reed Tuckson, President, Charles Drew Medical
College, Los Angeles, California

Health Braintrust Workshops
Friday, September 17, 1993

***** Agenda *****

Environmental Racism: Myth or Reality.

Capitol Hill, Room 345 Cannon House Office Building

9:00 a.m. - 12 noon

Panel Moderator: Dr. Bailus Walker, Professor & Dean of
Public Health
University of Oklahoma Health Science Center

A Life and Death Issue: Violence in Black America.

Capitol Hill, Room 2172 Rayburn House Office Building

1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Panel Moderator: Ms. Dorothy Gilliam, Columnist
The Washington Post Newspaper & President,
The National Association of Black Journalists

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 15, 1993

It gives me great pleasure to welcome all of the participants of the 23rd Annual Legislative Weekend of the Congressional Black Caucus. At a time when CBC's membership has increased from 26 to 40 representatives, this year's weekend is truly historic.

When I had the opportunity to speak last year at the CBC Weekend, I expressed my hope of building a full partnership between the White House and the African American community. I am extremely proud of the strides we have made in advancing a broad and progressive policy and program agenda. Still, much work remains to be done.

Our success as a nation depends upon our ability to embrace the creativity and energy of all of our people, and I am committed to achieving that goal. Today, record numbers of African Americans serve in senior level positions in the federal government.

I look forward to working with the members of the Congressional Black Caucus in the future as we, together, seek to strengthen our unified efforts.

Best wishes for a most successful weekend.

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"Building a Full Partnership"
A Fact Sheet on the Clinton Administration
September 15, 1993

One year ago when Governor Bill Clinton participated in the Congressional Black Caucus Annual Legislative Weekend as a candidate for President, he spoke of building a "full partnership" with the African American community. He said then that, if elected President, he would offer his "full participation" and "heartfelt commitment to progress." This principle still holds true today.

Working with the African American community, including the Congressional Black Caucus, the Clinton Administration has built a foundation for a full partnership. President Clinton has appointed more African Americans to senior level positions than has any President in American history. Five African Americans now sit in the President's Cabinet, more than in any previous administration. They include Commerce Secretary Ronald Brown, Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy, Energy Secretary Hazel O'Leary, Veterans Affairs Secretary Jesse Brown, and Drug Policy Coordinator Lee Brown. Together, these officials command budgets in excess of \$120 billion, supervise close to a half-million federal employees, and make decisions that affect every facet of American life.

In the White House, the President has appointed African Americans in record numbers and to unprecedented positions. For the first time, two African American women, Alexis Herman and Maggie Williams, serve as Assistants to the President and direct White House departments.

Throughout the agencies and departments, President Clinton has appointed record numbers of African Americans as well. These appointments include three deputy cabinet secretaries: Clifton Wharton as Deputy Secretary of State, Terrance Duvernay as Deputy Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and Walter Broadnax as Deputy Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services.

In addition, the President has appointed African Americans to untraditional positions. For example, Bob Nash serves as Undersecretary of Agriculture. Ron Noble serves as Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Enforcement and oversees the Secret Service. Rodney Slater serves as Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration. Emmett Paige serves as Assistant Secretary of Defense for Command, Control, Communications and Intelligence. Leslie Turner serves as Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Territorial and International Affairs.

Other appointments include Joycelyn Elders, who directs our nation's public health programs as Surgeon General and Cassandra Robinson, who serves as Deputy Administrator of the Small Business Administration. These are only a handful of the many appointments of African Americans made by President Clinton.

With the partnership of the Congressional Black Caucus, the Administration has also launched bold, new legislation. Last month, the President signed into law a new budget that will provide a tax break to small business owners and expand the Earned Income Tax Credit to lift the working poor out of poverty. The President pushed for and won the passage of the National Service Act to rebuild our communities and inspire our youth. The Administration won passage of a bill to establish Empowerment Zones in our nation's inner cities. And after years of Washington gridlock, the first piece of legislation the President signed was the Family & Medical Leave Act to protect working parents from losing their jobs when they need to take care of a child or a loved one.

In spite of what has been accomplished, there is much more to do. The Administration plans to put thousands more police officers not only on the streets but in the community, and it has proposed imposing a five-day waiting period for handgun purchases. Soon, the President will also announce his plan to reform the nation's health care system so that finally every American will be guaranteed medical coverage.

With your help, in full partnership, the Administration can achieve these goals and continue to build a better America.

The following facts and information highlight just a few of the many examples of steps President Clinton has taken to fight for the country's future.

APPOINTMENTS

- Appointed the most diverse Cabinet and Administration in history.
- With four African American members, the Clinton Cabinet is 29% African American.
- Clinton Cabinet-level appointments include:
 - Jesse Brown, Secretary of Veterans Affairs
 - Lee Brown, Drug Policy Coordinator
 - Ronald Brown, Secretary of Commerce
 - Mike Espy, Secretary of Agriculture
 - Hazel O'Leary, Secretary of Energy

- For the first time in history, appointed two African American women (Alexis Herman as Director of Public Liaison and Maggie Williams as Chief of Staff to the First Lady) as Assistants to the President.
- Appointed more than twice as many African Americans to leadership and senior staff positions than any previous administration.
- Appointed three deputy cabinet secretaries, including Clifton Wharton as Deputy Secretary of State, Terrance Duvernay as Deputy Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and Walter Broadnax as Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services.
- Appointed the first African American Surgeon General, Joycelyn Elders.
- Appointed an African American, Drew Days, as Solicitor General, the United States's Chief Advocate before the U.S. Supreme Court.
- Appointed Ron Noble Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Enforcement, a role which places him in charge of the U.S. Secret Service.
- Appointed Rodney Slater as Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration.
- Nominated the first African American ever as U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia, Eric Holder, Jr.
- Nominated three African American women, Veronica Coleman of Tennessee, Vickie Miles-LeGrange of Oklahoma, and Gaynelle Griffin-Jones of Texas as United States Attorneys.

ECONOMY

- Passed the single largest deficit-cutting plan in history, reducing the deficit by \$496 billion over five years.
- Signed into law the Small Business Guaranteed Credit Enhancement Act, significantly increasing the availability of loans that can be guaranteed by the SBA.
- Initiated aggressive action to alleviate the credit crunch on small business and issued more than ten regulatory initiatives to provide small businesses with more capital at lower interest rates.

- Expanded the Earned Income Tax Credit to lift working families out of poverty with incentives to work. When fully implemented, over 20 million households with incomes of up to \$27,000 will benefit.
- Passed the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act of 1993, providing \$4 billion in emergency unemployment compensation to approximately 1.9 million unemployed American workers.

FAMILIES & CHILDREN

- Signed the Family and Medical Leave Act, which requires employers to allow workers up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave to care for an infant or a loved one in a time of need.
- Passed a comprehensive child immunization plan, which includes a 96% increase in funding, so that every child, regardless of family income, will be immunized against disease.
- Dramatically increased funding for the Women, Infants & Children (WIC) program.
- Enacted key provisions of the Mickey Leland Act, broadening food stamp assistance for poor families with children.
- Achieved \$1 billion in funding for the Family Support and Preservation Initiative that will help prevent child abuse and help parents learn the skills and tools necessary to raise children.

EDUCATION

- Dramatically increased funding for Head Start, with full funding by 1997.
- Created the Historically Black College and University Capital Financing Program, which provides a federal guarantee for private sector bond financing for the repair and construction of facilities at historically black colleges and universities.
- Created the Institute for International Public Policy, which taps the talents of underrepresented minorities for the foreign service of the United States and private international volunteer organizations.
- Created the Faculty Development Fellowship Program to make grants to institutions of higher learning for programs to assist talented faculty from underrepresented groups obtain advance degrees and develop their careers.

- Passed a National Service Act that will give tens of thousands of young Americans a chance to contribute to their communities while they earn credit toward their higher education.
- Proposed funding for the construction, maintenance, and endowment of the Mary McLeod Bethune Memorial Fine Arts Center.
- Passed the Student Loan Reform Act of 1993, which will make college more affordable and save taxpayer money through direct federal lending.
- Set forth "Goals 2000," a comprehensive national educational reform that embraces new, world-class learning standards, underscores the link between education and employment, and encourages bottom-up, not top-down, educational reform.

VOTING RIGHTS

- Signed the Motor Voter Bill, which expands voting rights for the poor and the young by establishing voter registration locations in drivers license offices, unemployment offices, and other public facilities.
- Argued in court for the expansion of the enforcement of Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act.

URBAN POLICY

- Vigorously enforced the Civil Rights Act of 1964 in Vidor, Texas by announcing a plan to remove the Orange County Housing Authority Board of Commissioners and Executive Director for failure to protect black former residents in this all-white town's public housing community.
- Initiated a four-pronged strategy to help integrate East Texas public housing facilities by increasing security and providing safe access to public transportation in Vidor, Texas and establishing an oversight office to monitor desegregation plans throughout East Texas. The plan will be implemented by the Department of Housing and Urban Development as part of a new direction for the department.
- Granted \$300 million to the Urban Revitalization Demonstration Program (Hope VI) to revitalize the most severely distressed public housing developments in the nation.

- Introduced legislation to create a network of Community Development financial institutions to provide capital and basic banking services to credit-starved, low-income communities.
- Proposed strengthening the Community Reinvestment Act, which is designed to encourage banks to lend to members of the community.
- Developed a plan to create Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities to encourage business investment in depressed urban areas.
- Signed an Executive Order directing the Interagency Council on the Homeless to develop a plan to make federal homeless programs more effective to break the cycle of homelessness.
- Proposed the "D.C. Initiative," which will create a comprehensive program for dealing with homelessness in the District of Columbia.
- Introduced the Housing and Community Development Act of 1993, which will significantly change rent policy for public housing and make home ownership easier for low income Americans.

CRIME

- Signed a Presidential Directive to reform federal firearms licensing procedures by improving background checks and imposing other security measures to keep guns out of the hands of criminals.
- Signed a Presidential Directive to close the loophole on the importation of assault pistols.
- Proposed a five-day waiting period on the purchase of handguns ("The Brady Bill").
- Passed the Police Hiring Supplement, making \$150 million available to communities most in need of community policing.

HEALTH

- Created the Office of Minority Health Research and Alternative Medicine at the National Institutes of Health.
- Named the first ever White House AIDS policy coordinator to organize federal policy to fight the deadly disease.

- Revoked the Reagan/Bush "gag rule" that prohibited doctors in federally-funded facilities and public clinics from even mentioning family planning to their patients.
- Revoked the Reagan/Bush restrictions on family counseling in military hospitals.