President Reaches Out For Blacks

By STANLEY SCOTT

WASHINGTON, D.C. — When a candidate wins less than 15 per cent of the votes from any group in an election, he is usually advised to look elsewhere for support in his next bid for office.

But Richard Nixon isn't listening to that advice this year.

The man who built bridges to China and Russia — when they said it couldn't be done — is even more determined to reach out to black voters in

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1972, even though they gave him little support four years ago.

BROADER SUPPORT

Why?

Because the President and growing number of others around the country are convinced that his first-term performance has contributed so much to minorities in America that he deserves broader support from them this year.

"The record is there for all to see," one White House aide told me recently. "It's a record of solid accomplishment, not the phoney promises we've been fed so often in the past.

CONVINCE PUBLIC

"Now what we have to do is convince the public. Tell it like it is," he said.

"We haven't accomplished all that we would have liked for blacks, Chicanos and other minority groups — but it's one hell of a lot more than anybody thought could be done.

"And now we have to educate people on what the record is," he added.

MATCH PROMISES

In truth, the President has tried to match promises with performance during his first term.

Some critics smirked when John Mitchell advised, "Watch what we do, not what we say."

I for one am much more interested in results than rhetoric.

BLACK AUDIENCES

President Nixon stated it well, I thought: "Now I know all the words. I know all the gimmicks and the phrases that would win the applause of black audiences and civil rights leaders. I am not going to use them. I am interested in deeds."

In my opinion, his efforts have been successful.

President Nixon has done more than any other President to end school segregation, ensure equality of educational opportunity;

Enforce equal opportunity laws, promote equal employment opportunity, assist minority businesses and provide fair and adequate housing for all Americans.

EDUCATION RECORD

More school desegregation has, for example, been achieved in the last four years than in the prior 15 years.

Four years ago, 94 per cent of all Black children in the South were attending legally segregated schools; less than 8 per cent are today. Four years ago, 40 per cent of all black children throughout the nation were attending legally segregated schools; less than 12 per cent are today.

And the administration expresses a determination to reduce the remaining number to zero.

MORE RESOURCES

The Nixon Administration has devoted more resources than any prior Administration toward fulfillment of the goal of a quality education for all Americans.

The President has presented to the Congress a total budget of $2.5 billion for fiscal year 1973 to help ensure equality of educational opportunity.

He has recommended the targeting of at least an additional $300 per pupil — a "critical mass" — to schools with a preponderance of disadvantaged children.

It is true that the President has come out strongly against busing, and some perceive this to be an anti-black position.

I disagree.

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It's not anti-anyone, but pro-children — it's a stand for the rights of all children, black and white, not to be bused arbitrarily miles away from their home.

BLACKS AGREE

The President is right on this issue. I think most Blacks agree with him.

President Nixon has also recognized the importance of higher education to minority progress.

Federal aid to black colleges has more than doubled under the Nixon Administration.

INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT

Approximately 45 per cent of this assistance consists of grants and loans to students; most of the remaining aid is in the form of institutional support.

Black colleges will additionally be the target beneficiaries of increased construction support through the interest subsidy program of the Office of Education.

Significantly, more federal effort has also been put into the enforcement of equal opportunity laws than ever before.

SAMUEL JACKSON

WIDENS POWERS

The civil rights enforcement budget proposed by President Nixon for fiscal year 1973 is more than eight times greater than it was under the last year of LBJ.

And the President supported and signed into law the Equal Employment Opportunities Act of 1972, which strengthens and widens the powers of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission against discrimination in employment, thereby making the EEOC a more powerful body than it was under Democratic leadership.

The Nixon Administration has also made great strides toward achieving equal employment opportunity.

PHILADELPHIA PLAN

The Administration has negotiated or imposed a total of 55 city-wide plans, including the well-known Philadelphia Plan, for the increased employment of minority workers in the construction industry.

These plans call for a total of more than 36,000 additional minority hirings by 1978.

And the Administration has increased minority employment opportunity among federal non-construction contractors as well.

MINORITY WORKERS

As of March, 1972, more than 260,000 minority workers had been hired or upgraded under this Administration. Job opportunities in the public sector have also been expanded.

The President's Executive Order 11478 of August 8, 1969, called on the head of each executive department and agency to set up an affirmative program of equal employment opportunity.

IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS

Implementing regulations by the Civil Service Commission have made this policy an integral part of personnel administration.

These programs and regulations have been successful beyond all expectations. Minority workers now make up 19.5 per cent of the federal workforce — a higher proportion than under any prior administration.

Even more significant, minority hirings at the middle and upper levels have proceeded at a much faster rate than non-minority hirings.

MINORITY CITIZENS

The number of minority citizens employed by the federal government in the middle and upper grades (GS 9-18) increased by almost 7,000 between November 1969 and November 1971, despite a decrease in overall federal employment.

President Nixon has also set a record in the number of black appointees to high-level jobs.

The number of executive-level black appointments is more than double the number in previous years, while the number of sub-cabinet level appointments has tripled.

OFFICES HEADED

Among the offices now headed by black appointees are the Office of Minority Business Enterprise, Justice Department's Community

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Relations Service and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

In the White House itself, the tradition of one black staffer has finally been shattered.

In addition to a black special assistant to the President, there are now more than 30 blacks in other leading positions, serving on the communications staff, the office of management and budget, the domestic council and the special drug abuse program.

BUSINESS AID

The Nixon Administration has, in addition, done more than any prior Administration to encourage business ownership by Blacks.

Federal loans, grants and guarantees to minority businesses have more than tripled under the Nixon Administration, increasing from about $200 million in fiscal year 1969 to an estimated $715.9 million in fiscal year 1973.

And federal procurement from minority businesses has increased even more dramatically — in 1973 it is expected to be more than 27 times greater than it was in 1969 ($350 million as opposed to only $13 million).

SCOPE BROADENED

The Office of Minority Business Enterprise was created by the Nixon Administration in March 1969 to coordinate federal assistance programs for minority-group members seeking to establish or expand businesses.

Its scope was broadened in October, 1971, to include

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Minorities for Jobs

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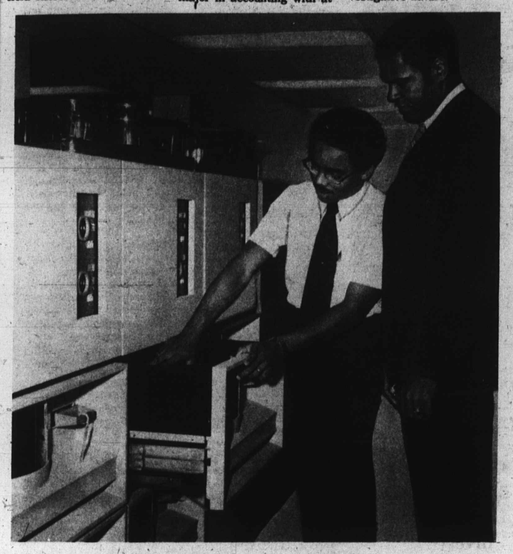

Special Agent John M. Cary JOHN M. CARY

THIRD CATEGORY

While it has been commonly known over the years that the FBI recruits from those having a law or accounting degree, it wants those fitting into the third category to know of potential opportunities for them.

Special agent applicants must have reached their 23rd but not their 41st birthday and meet physical requirements for the position.

The FBI also recruits for a number of non-investigative positions, all requiring a high school diploma.

VARIOUS TESTS

A beginning clerical position offers a starting salary of $5,166 per year.

Other positions such as clerk-typist, $5,828 per annum and clerk-stenographer, $6,544 per annum, in addition to the high school diploma, also require that the applicant pass various tests to measure technical skills in typing and stenography.

In addition, the FBI recruits for other positions, such as radio maintenance technician, $7,319 through $9,053 and laboratory positions, $6,544 through $12,151.

NEAREST OFFICE

These latter positions require additional training and-or experience to qualify for consideration for assignment at the entrance levels.

The FBI encourages those entering duty in non-investigative positions to complete their education while working for the Bureau, and then apply for the special agent position.

Persons interested in a career with the Federal Bureau of Investigation should inquire at the nearest FBI Office or write the Acting Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, D.C. 20535.

Denture Reliners Harm Tissues HU Researchers

WASHINGTON, D.C. — A researcher at Howard University's College of Dentistry found that home denture reliner materials either causes or may perpetuate undesirable changes in the tissues of the mouth.

The tissues most affected are the gums and the supporting bones of the jaws.

A group of researchers that included Dr. Craig R. Means, associate dean for undergraduate affairs of the College of Dentistry, investigated home denture reliner materials sold to the public over the counter in most drug stores.

TEMPORARY NATURE

Dr. Means and his group found that most promotions of home reliner materials sold to the public, for correcting denture fitting problems, fail to adequately advise the users of the very temporary nature of the product.

The customer usually believes that the material can be used indefinitely, understanding only that new applications must be made periodically.

Because the customer has no professional training and very likely inadequately professional instructions in regard to his denture and their maintenance, he most likely will not know of the changes that are occurring in his mouth.

ILLFITTING DENTURES

Dr. Means, who has conducted a rather extensive independent study, stated that the dentures worn by the users of home reliner materials are illfitting dentures at the time the home reliner materials are applied and that home relined dentures continue to be illfitting dentures.

He noted in order to maintain some degree of comfort relining was required at intervals which varied from one day to approximately six months depending upon the type of reliner material used.

Illfitting dentures contribute to chronic soft tissue lesions and bone resorption.

BONE DISTRUCTION

The frequency of application of home reliner materials probably contribute to a more rapid bone destruction and disfigurement of gums and other mouth tissues.

Dr. Means advises that a denture that requires relining to be comfortable for the wearer must be considered an illfitting denture.

An illfitting denture may be relined and corrected by a dentist to become a useful appliance. Whenever it is home relined by an untrained individual the denture continues to be an illfitting denture.

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