PROJECT KING $2 BILL, INC.©

Dear Fellow Citizens:

My name is Victor E. Holt, a Black free lance writer, author of a book ("What Every Taxi Cab Driver Should Know") and part-time Washington, D.C. taxicab driver. I have written several articles requesting that the Federal Government reprint $2 bills and that they bear a portrait of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This bill would serve as currency exchange and would commemorate and pay tribute to a great Black American. The Treasury Department has stated that the $2 bill was taken out of circulation in 1966 because of its lack of public appeal. They would consider reissuing the bill only if there is proven public demand. You, the general public, can create "The Public Demand." Dr. King advocated peace. He believed that changes would come about through peaceful means only.

I have been asked by Blacks and Whites why I would request or propose that Dr. King's likeness appear on a $2 bill and not put on one currently in use. I said it is the only bill that is out of circulation and with thinas as they are economically, it should be in the hands of the people again. Also, that if it is printed again, Dr. King would be a good choice. They'd want to know why I selected Dr. King over other Black leaders like Booker T. Washington, Frederick Douglass, Dr. George Washington Carver etc;. I feel that Dr. King was a great and lovable individual who won the Nobel Peace Prize and while in the prime of his life was cut down in a violent manner. He preached love because he loved all people regardless of their backgrounds. One doesn't have to be a President in order to be immortalized on spendable currency. To me Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is the most qualified person to be honored and remembered by his picture on U.S. currency. It would really be a step in proving to the world that true equality is possible in this Great Country of Ours.

The purpose of this advertisement is to request donations for continuation of my campaign and to ask you, the public to send the letter below to the Honorable William E. Simon, Secretary of the Treasury.

Sincerly,

Victor E. Holt

Honorable William E. Simon
Secretary of the Treasury
Treasury Department
15th & Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I wish to express my wholehearted approval and support of Victor E. Holt's idea of a new $2 Bill bearing a portrait of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Mr. Holt a Black free lance writer and D.C. taxicab driver has suggested this idea to pay tribute to and commemorate a great Black American who preached love, peace, freedom, justice and equality for all mankind.

Thank you, Mr. Secretary for this opportunity to voice my approval and support toward this proposed idea.

Respectfully yours .....
Signature

Name .....
Address .....
City ..... State ..... Zip .....
Business or Organization .....

Mr. Victor E. Holt
Project $2 Bill, Inc.
3209 Dubois Pl., S.E. #3
Washington, D.C. 20019

Dear Mr. Holt:

I wish to express my moral and financial support of Project King, $2 Bill, Inc., I believe that the recirculation of a new $2.00 Bill bearing a portait of Dr. King would be a fitting tribute to this great Black American who advocated peace, justice freedom and love for all mankind.

Please find enclosed my donation of $_____

Name .....
Address .....
City ..... State .....
Phone .....
Business or Organization .....

Please make all checks or money orders payable to Project King, $2 Bill, Incorporated.

WATCHING THE PARADE Wednesday, the littlest youngsters stood along the route in misty weather for their first glimpse of elephants and the whole troupe of animals in the Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey Circus.
(AFRO staff photo by Robert M. Matthews IV)

Over 8,000 spectators greet circus

AFRO REPORTER Portia Badham found a new friend in circus elephant, "Sita" and took a ride in the parade Wednesday. The Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey Circus is at the Civic Center with its spectacular Bicentennial Edition through March 23.
(AFRO staff photo by Robert M. Matthews IV)

By Pam Widgeon
Pa'a Badham

Shouts of "ahs" and "o h s" by incredulous spectators greeted the exciting and sometime incredible performance of the 320-member Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus at the Civic Center last Wednesday night.

The over 8,000 spectators, made up of mostly families and relatives, were kept on the edge of their seats most of the time, as the performers bounced, leaped, clowned and did tricks with elephants, lions and horses.

It was a day out for the family, especially children as they yelled, clapped and screamed to every act. Dubbed the greatest show on earth the Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus has over 300 animals.

Highlights of the show was a special salute to America in commemoration of the country's bicentennial. It was colorful, glamorous and exciting extravaganza as the spectators joined the circus crew to sing "God Bless America."

Laughter contrasted anxiety in the performances by Lou the Clown, a funny guy with a big red nose, pointed head and a grin on his face and the performance of the flying trapeze who bounced more than 25 feet above the arena floor, displaying split-second dexterity in a rarely seen Russian batut act.

However, to AFRO reporter, Miss Portia Badham, the greatest fun and excitement of the day was an elephant ride from Penn Central, Produce Terminal to the Civic Center in the morning, opening day parade.

Miss Badham recalls: "I had convinced myself that I was going to go through with it after I adventureously, yet reluctanly volunteered to be one of the riders in the Rinaling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus opening day parade.

"I've only been on a horse once, so you can imagine that elephants were a bit out of my line. However, I decided to hang right on in there, with the jolting movements as we rode down Cathedral St."

One might think the experience frightened Miss Badham but, no, the enterprising young reporter was not. "Now that it's all over, I had an unforgettable fun kind of experience that I'll always remember and do it again if I get the chance," she said.

Youth, 14, reported missing

Tony Carter, 14, a 9th grade Herring Run Junior High School student, is reportedly missing from his 5505 Bowley's Lane home since Feb. 6.

His mother, Mrs. Rebecca Carter, told the AFRO Tony left home to go to school and never came back home.

He is described as about 5 ft 6 ins. tall, weighs about 100 lbs. and was last seen wearing a navy blue coat, a navy blue cap, blue dungarees and white tennis shoes.

He has a mole on his neck and sometimes wears his dentures.

Anyone who sees him must report to his mother, Mrs. Carter, 488-0439 or his counselor, Jerome Butler, at Youth Diversion Project, at 276-4850.

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AFRO Clown Contest winners

Frankie Johnson of 3235 Burleith Ave., age 8, is the top winner of 10 free tickets in the AFRO Circus Coloring Costest.

Frankie will also be Clown for the Night on an evening of her choice at the Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey Circus now playing at the Civic Center.

Top winners of four free circus tickets in the five different age groups are:

3-4 — Rodney Bradsher, 1234 Mosher St.; Tracy Pulley, 3429 Duvall Ave. and Terrell Dixon, 1626 N. Fulton.

5-6 — Jermay Holley, 1930 E. Eager St.; Hemes Eldridge, 915 Seamyl Ave.; Sharon Tindal, 3308 Windsor.

7-8 — Delbert Johnson, 1426 Edison Hwy.; Steven Simmons, 863 W. Fayette; Andrea Stanton, 4000 Groveland Ave.

9-10 — Karen Beckett, 702 Carrollton Ave.; Jacqueline Claggett, 3710 Clifton Ave.; Stephanie Worsham, 427 E. 22nd St.

11-12 — Barbie Watcher, 6519 Gardenwick Road; Yolanda Elliott, 3510 W. Franklin St.; Kevin Dyatt, 2517 [illegible] St.

All winners have been notified by telephone.

AFRO Honor Roll

AFRO readers are invited to send in nominations for the 1974 Honor Roll. Let us hear from you. Write to us and tell us who you feel in 1974 made contributions beyond the call of duty, without thought of personal gain, in advancing his fellow man.

Deadline is midnight April 20.

WRITE: AFRO Honor Roll, City Desk, P.O. Box 1557, Baltimore, 21203.

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