NATIONAL ROUNDUP

By Larry A. Still and Art Carter

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Operation, Big Vote for 1980 seeks to increase the number of black voters from six million in 1976 to 12 million in the next presidential campaign . . . . Organizers *Vernon Jordan, Mayor Richard Hatcher, Mrs. Coretta King, Carl Holman, Bayard Rustin* and *Eddie Williams* hope to double the number since 16 million blacks will be eligible to vote in 1980 according to the projected Count U.S. In Census — and the Big Vote Campaign to increase registration at least 20 percent over the 9 million record in "76, with 75 percent of the registered population voting in 41 target areas in 15 key states — Alabama, California, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Michigan, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas and Virginia . . . If the Big Vote drive uses the same techniques marshalled by successful *Mayor Richard Arrington* . . . we may get over . . .

"It is the responsibility of this black community to maximize black registration and voter turnout. We don't have the wealth. We don't have the power. But we do have the numbers . . . The black agenda for the 1980s with its emphasis on such vital issues as full employment and affirmative action depends on that . . ." declared Jordan, president of the National Urban League . . . .

But, Williams, president of the Joint Center for Political Studies which is spearheading the drive again, declared "We know the decade of the 80s will not be an easy time to motivate and mobilize those who feel their needs were not met in the past and probably will not be met in the future . . . "We know the decade of the 80s will not be an easy time to motivate and mobilize those who feel their needs were not met in the past and probably will not be met in the future. . . ."

Meanwhile, historians at the recent Association for the Study oa Afro - American Life and History convention in New York recalled that President Jimmy Carter ignored the black agenda drafted by a similar coalition at the Charlotte, N.C., rally in '76 because most of the black leaders were not on "his team" B.C. (Before Charlotte). . . .

And Ambassador Andy Young told participants at the significant Howard University Public Policy Conference on Blacks and Presidential Politics last month that the administration is carrying out the black agenda despite the fact that he was forced out of the Carter cabinet for trying to implement the program. . . .

Youg presented a brilliant analysis of the relationship between foreign and domestic policy, which convinced thousands of potential new young voters when he explained that each billion dollar deficit in foreign trade means the loss of one million jobs in the U.S. . . . . and we have a $12 billion trade deficit with African nations. (They sell us $12 billion dollars more than we sell to them in goods and services annually) because of our "African Policy" which Young seeks to change, even though out of the government . . . . So-o-o-o, Mr. Young is trying to get jobs for us, while selling Africa to the U.S. and the U.S. to Africa . . . . Get It? The question is — does the Carter administration understand well enough to seriously try to sell the "Black Agenda" to America during the presidential campaign . . . .

Most political leaders who jumped on the Carter band wagon A. C. (After Charlotte) recall that the President's Agenda was already drafted by the Martin Luther King Sr. forces and the Georgia "Mafia" of new politicos. . . . These historical facts present a current dilemma to politicians and leaders who now do not know which presidential campaign bandwagon to join and when . . . or whether to urge black voters to stay home as they did in 1968, resulting in "the confusion and disorganization which brought on the dark ages" of the Richard Nixon era, Ambassador Young frankly states. . . .

The upcoming leadership Conference on Civil Rights Conference in January here . . . is expected to re - emphasize the historic partnership between black and Jewish organizations in seeking national civil rights and human rights legislation . . . At least 25 such organization representatives have signed the new manifesto "expressing their undiminished shared commitment to human rights which has bound them together in the LCCR for 30 years, thus dispelling the idea that differences which may exist will lessen their ability to work together . . ."

The LCCR is a colistion of 149 major national groups representing blacks, hispanics and Asian Americans, labor, the major religious groups, women, the handicapped, minority businesses and professions, all seeking to advance civil rights through enactment and enforcement of federal legislation. . . .

Chairman Clarence M. Mitchell, the pioneer NAACP lobbyist, and Secretary Arnold Aronson stated that there are differences between the black and Jewish groups, "but to suggest that such differences constitute an irreparable right is to misunderstand the nature of a coalition and of our relationship . . . ."

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Dr. Ann Forrester Holloway, named as the Ambassador to the Republic of Mali, was a former director of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in Atlanta and the Drum and Spear Press, a former publishing house specializing in African literature. . . . *Anne Thompson* of Trenton, N.J., and *Terry J. Hatter*, Los Angeles, were named Federal judges among the 60 new U.S. District Court benches created by the administration . . . Democratic National Committeeman *Robert B. Washington* was appointed to the President's Export Council after completing the trade mission to Africa with D.C. *Mayor Marion Barry*. . . .

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HEW Secretary *Patricia Roberts Harris* today announced the award of nearly $8 million to 108 colleges and universities to assist minority and women students in graduate and professional study.

"Minorities and women traditionally have been underrepresented in graduate and professional fields," Harris said. "These grants will help substantially to alleviate the imbalance."

Minorities and women planning to teach at the postsecondary level and those planning careers in other professions of national importance are eligible to apply for the fellowships. Selections are made by the participating education institutions.

Each fellow receives a stipend of $3,900 for a 12-month period of study and the institution receives an allowance in the same amount to cover the cost of tuition and fees. Both the stipends and the institutional allowances are prorated for courses lasting less than 12 months. If the course is of longer duration, the student is eligible for a continuing fellowship.

Still citing unemployment as the country's number one problem, Assistant Secretary of Labor Ernest G. Green has emphasized that the increased involvement of community - based organizations in job and training programs will be a major effort in combatting this joblessness.

Speaking before the Urban League of Northwest Indiana here, Green pointed out that new regulations in the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) "make it very clear that CETA prime sponsors are to give special consideration to community-based organizations and to actively involve them in the planning process."

Green also announced that nearly $1.3 million has been awarded by the Employment and Training Administration to 24 state Work Incentive (WIN) programs to run group job-seeking projects for welfare recipients.

The 24 grants range from $17,000 to $77,000, depending on the design and size of programs that individual states proposed. Funding was contingent on a 10 percent match in state funds. All of the projects are expected to be operational by the end of December and will run for one year.

Secretary of Labor Ray Marshall announced that $6.4 billion will be allocated to states and over 400 local governments for Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) programs in fiscal year 1980.

The Administration is still hoping for passage of the new Youth Opportunity Act to provide more billions for youth employment which is at the 35-40 percent for black youth. . . . It is not too late to make your suggestions for funding this program through your Congressperson. . . . Observers report the program is being drafted with little input from community organizations.

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