

**The original documents are located in Box 25, folder “April 21, 1972 - Friends of Richard Nixon Seminar (Speech by Robert J. Brown)” of the Stanley Scott Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

### **Copyright Notice**

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Bettye L. Scott donated to the United States of America her copyrights in all of her husband's unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

FRIENDS OF RICHARD NIXON SEMINAR

SHERATON CARLTON HOTEL

APRIL 21, 1972

Robert J. Brown  
Special Assistant  
to the President



UNLIKE THE USUAL KIND OF SOCIAL AMENITIES, WHERE  
BOASTING OR SELF-PRAISE IS CONSIDERED GAUCHE AND CRASS,  
ALL THE SHOTS ARE OUT IN A PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION YEAR.  
EVERYBODY TAKES CREDIT FOR ALL THE GOOD IDEAS AND PROGRAMS,  
DISCREDITS THOSE WHOSE IDEAS AND PROGRAMS ARE NOT IN STEP  
WITH THEIRS, AND MAKES PROMISES WHICH SUGGEST THAT THEIR  
ADMINISTRATION WILL BE THE ONE THAT WILL REALLY "PUT A  
CHICKEN IN EVERY POT."

IN KEEPING WITH THE SPIRIT OF ELECTION YEAR PROTOCOL,  
THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION HAS A FEW STOPS TO PULL OUT TOO.  
IT DOES SO, HOWEVER, WITH CONSIDERABLY MORE ADVANTAGE  
THAN OTHER CONTENDERS. FOR ONE THING, IT HAS A RECORD  
BY WHICH IT CAN BE MEASURED. AND, MORE IMPORTANTLY, IS  
THE FACT THAT THIS RECORD IS PROGRESSIVE AND FORWARD  
MOVING. THOSE WHO WOULD JUDGE THE RECORDS OF THE PAST



THREE YEARS OF THIS ADMINISTRATION MUST BE RESPONSIBLE  
ENOUGH TO JUDGE IT ON ITS MERITS AND NOT ON EMOTIONAL HOOPLA  
THAT ONLY MAKES THE BLOOD RUN HOT AND LITTLE ELSE.

ONE OF THE THINGS THAT I STEADFASTLY MAINTAIN IS THAT THERE  
IS NO SUBSTITUTION FOR DECISIONS BASED ON CLEAR AND SOUND  
REASONING. FOR TOO LONG BLACK FOLKS HAVE BEEN VICTIMS  
OF RHETORIC AND "HONEY FILLED" WORDS THAT OFTEN LEFT THEM  
SO SWAYED BY AN EMOTIONAL IMPACT THAT POLITICAL AND  
ECONOMIC REALITIES WERE OBSCURED.

TODAY IS A NEW DAY FOR BLACK PEOPLE. WE'RE ASKING  
THE HARD QUESTIONS, THE PROBING QUESTIONS, THE KINDS OF  
QUESTIONS THAT CONGRESSMEN, OFFICE SEEKERS, AND EVEN  
PRESIDENTS HAVE TO ANSWER. OUR RESPONSIBILITIES MUST BE,  
THEN, TO ASSESS THOSE ANSWERS AND IN OUR OWN MIND DETERMINE



THE DEGREE TO WHICH THEY PROVIDE SATISFACTORY ANSWERS.

AS A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ADMINISTRATION, I CAN PROVIDE ANSWERS TO SOME OF THE QUESTIONS THAT ARE BEING ASKED BY BLACK FOLKS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY. I ASK YOU TO ASSESS THESE ANSWERS NOT WITH THE QUALIFICATION THAT MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE (THIS WE ALL KNOW), BUT IN THE CONTEXT OF GAINS AND MOMENTUM ACHIEVED SINCE THIS ADMINISTRATION TOOK OFFICE.

ONE QUESTION CONSISTENTLY RAISED HAS TO DO WITH THE ADMINISTRATION'S POSITION ON CIVIL RIGHTS. THE RECORD SHOWS THAT IN 1969 \$75 MILLION WAS BUDGETED FOR CIVIL RIGHTS ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY COMPARED TO 1973'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR \$602.1 MILLION -- AN EIGHT FOLD INCREASE OVER A FIVE YEAR PERIOD. ALSO IN 1973 THE TOTAL FEDERAL CIVIL RIGHTS BUDGET WILL ALMOST TRIPLE THE 1969 EXPENDITURES -- \$.9 BILLION TO





\$2.6 BILLION.

A RELATED ISSUE IS THAT OF THE EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION WHERE THE ADMINISTRATION HAS REQUESTED LEGISLATION TO EXTEND ITS AUTHORITY TO THE STATE AND LOCAL LEVEL AS WELL AS TO INCREASE ITS BUDGET BY 33% FOR 1973. ADDITIONALLY, WHILE FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT HAS HAD AN OVERALL DECREASE, FROM NOVEMBER, 1969 TO MAY, 1971, MINORITY HIRING INCREASED TO 19.5% OF THE FEDERAL CIVILIAN WORK FORCE. IN THE SOME PERIOD, EMPLOYMENT OF MINORITIES IN THE HIGHER GRADES INCREASED FOUR TIMES THAT OF NON MINORITIES.

GENERALLY, UNDER THIS ADMINISTRATION, MORE BLACKS HAVE BEEN APPOINTED THAN EVER BEFORE TO TOP LEVEL GOVERNMENT POSTS, INCLUDING THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET AND THE WHITE HOUSE STAFF. BEFORE PRESIDENT NIXON TOOK OFFICE,



ONLY TWO BLACK OFFICERS HELD THE RANK OF GENERAL.

PRESENTLY, SEVEN BLACK OFFICERS HAVE ATTAINED THE RANK

OF GENERAL. THE PRESIDENT HAS ALSO APPOINTED THE FIRST

BLACK ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY, AS WELL AS NAMING

THE FIRST BLACK TO THE U.S. COURT OF MILITARY APPEALS.

HE HAS ALSO APPOINTED SEVEN BLACK AMBASSADORS. BY 1973,

MORE THAN \$200 MILLION WILL BE EXPENDED ON AID TO PRE-

DOMINANTLY BLACK COLLEGES -- MORE THAN DOUBLE THE 1969

EXPENDITURES.

ANOTHER QUESTION FREQUENTLY ASKED RELATES TO THE

ADMINISTRATION'S COMMITMENT TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF MINORITY

BUSINESSES. LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT THE RECORD ON THIS ISSUE.

PRESIDENT NIXON CREATED THE OFFICE OF MINORITY BUSINESS

ENTERPRISE IN 1969. IN A RECENT MESSAGE TO CONGRESS, THE

PRESIDENT CALLED FOR A BUDGET INCREASE TO THAT OFFICE OF



\$100 MILLION OVER 18 MONTHS. HE ALSO PROPOSED THAT A NEW POST OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR MINORITY ENTERPRISE BE CREATED IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.

MINORITY BUSINESS ASSISTANCE INCREASED FROM \$200 MILLION IN 1969 TO \$360.3 MILLION IN 1971. IN 1973 OUTLAYS WILL AMOUNT TO \$505.8 MILLION.

FEDERAL PURCHASES FROM MINORITY FIRMS HAS GONE FROM \$13.0 MILLION IN FY 1969 TO \$142.0 MILLION IN FY71. THIS INCLUDES CONTRACTS AWARDED DIRECTLY TO MINORITY FIRMS UNDER SBA'S 8(A) PROGRAM, WHICH HAS GROWN FROM \$8.8 MILLION IN FY 1969 TO \$66.1 MILLION IN FY 1971. IN FY 1972, THIS FIGURE SHOULD INCREASE TO \$100.0 MILLION.





SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION LENDING TO MINORITY ENTERPRISE HAS INCREASED FROM \$41.3 MILLION IN FY 1968 TO \$195 MILLION IN 1971. THE SBA WILL HAVE MORE THAN \$336 MILLION IN LOANS AND LOAN GUARANTEES OBLIGATED IN 1973 FOR MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT.

FROM THE INCEPTION OF THE MINORITY ENTERPRISE SMALL BUSINESS INVESTMENT COMPANY PROGRAM (MESBIC) IN 1969, SBA HAS LICENSED 43 MESBICs CAPITALIZED AT OVER \$11.0 MILLION. MATCHED WITH FEDERAL FUNDS, TOTAL CAPITALIZATION AMOUNTS TO MORE THAN \$34 MILLION. LEGISLATION HAS BEEN SUBMITTED WHICH WILL STRONGLY BOLSTER THIS PROGRAM.

LAUNCHED IN LATE 1970, THE ADMINISTRATION'S PROGRAM FOR GENERATING DEPOSITS FOR MINORITY BANKS HAD RESULTED BY THE END OF 1971 IN \$242.2 MILLION DEPOSITED BY BOTH THE



FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR. THIS IS A  
GAIN OF 81%. THE ADDITIONAL DEPOSITS EXPANDED THE LENDING  
CAPABILITY OF MINORITY BANKS BY \$80 MILLION.

WHAT ABOUT THE ADMINISTRATION'S POSITION IN HOUSING AND  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT?

NEW CONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION OF EXISTING HOUSING  
FOR LOW AND MODERATE INCOME FAMILIES UNDER PUBLIC HOUSING  
AND OTHER FEDERALLY SUBSIDIZED PROGRAMS WILL INCREASE FROM  
156,000 STARTS IN 1969 TO MORE THAN 566,000 STARTS IN 1973.

IN JUNE, 1971, PRESIDENT NIXON ISSUED A POLICY STATEMENT  
CLEARLY SETTING FORTH THE ADMINISTRATION'S COMMITMENT TO  
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES AND ESTABLISHING THE ROLES OF  
HUD AND JUSTICE IN ENFORCING THE 1968 CIVIL RIGHTS ACT'S  
PROHIBITION AGAINST HOUSING DISCRIMINATION.



REVENUE SHARING WILL PLACE OVER \$2 BILLION IN THE HANDS OF LOCAL OFFICIALS TO ATTACK URBAN PROBLEMS WITHOUT THE DELAY OF FEDERAL REVIEW AND APPROVAL; THIS WILL CONTRIBUTE SUBSTANTIALLY TO THE RESTORATION OF THE INNER CITY AREAS.

AN EXECUTIVE ORDER WAS ISSUED MORE THAN A YEAR AGO SO THAT IN THE SITE SELECTION OF FEDERAL FACILITIES, PRIME CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO THE AVAILABILITY OF LOW AND MODERATE PRICED HOUSING.

RESOURCES FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF FAIR HOUSING PROGRAM WILL INCREASE IN 1973 BY 20% TO \$10.9 MILLION.

IN THE AREA OF FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, THE FOLLOWING RECORD SHOULD BE NOTED.

THE FOOD STAMP PROGRAM WILL BE ASSISTING OVER 12 MILLION INDIVIDUALS BY THE MIDDLE OF THIS YEAR -- NEARLY FOUR TIMES



THE 3.2 MILLION IN 1969.

ALL BUT 9 OF THE 440 COUNTIES WHICH HAD NO FOOD PROGRAMS  
IN JANUARY, 1969 HAVE THEM NOW.

8.4 MILLION NEEDY CHILDREN WILL RECEIVE FREE OR REDUCED  
PRICED LUNCHES IN 1973 -- MORE THAN DOUBLE THE 3.1 MILLION  
IN 1969.

ALL FAMILY FEEDING PROGRAMS ARE EXPECTED TO REACH  
16.1 MILLION PEOPLE IN 1973 -- MORE THAN DOUBLE THE 6.9  
MILLION IN 1969.

FEDERAL EXPENDITURES ON FOOD PROGRAMS IN 1973 WILL BE  
NEARLY FOUR TIMES THE 1969 OUTLAYS -- \$4.1 BILLION VERSUS  
\$1.2 BILLION.

MORE THAN 10,000 NUTRITION AIDES ARE NOW AT WORK IN LOW  
INCOME COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE NATION.





REGARDING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES, THE FOLLOWING  
HAS OCCURED.

AT THE END OF FY 1971 THERE WERE 912,000 ENROLLEES IN  
THE VARIOUS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR MANPOWER PROGRAMS;  
ABOUT 54% WERE BLACK. THIS NUMBER WILL REACH OVER 1.0  
MILLION IN THE PRESENT FISCAL YEAR.

GOVERNMENT ASSISTED SUMMER JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR  
DISADVANTAGED YOUTHS HAVE BEEN STEADILY INCREASING UNDER  
THIS ADMINISTRATION AND WERE AT AN ALL TIME HIGH THIS  
YEAR -- SOME 824,000 OR ONE-THIRD MORE THAN THE PRIOR SUMMER.

THIS ADMINISTRATION IS THE FIRST TO HAVE INSTITUTED PLANS  
TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINORITIES  
IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY. CURRENTLY SOME 38 CITIES HAVE  
INITIATED PROGRAMS OPENING UP CONSTRUCTION JOBS TO MINORITIES.





IN ADDITION TO \$13.7 MILLION ALREADY PROVIDED, THE ADMINISTRATION PROVIDED THE OPPORTUNITY INDUSTRIALIZATION CENTERS PROGRAM WITH AN ADDITIONAL \$10.7 MILLION TO OPEN 40 MORE TRAINING CENTERS EARLIER THIS YEAR.

SIMILAR PROGRESS CAN BE SEEN IN OTHER AREAS, MANY OF WHICH RELATE TO QUESTIONS WHICH I'M SURE I HAVE NOT ADDRESSED THIS AFTERNOON. IN VIEW OF THE TIME CONSTRAINTS, I CHOSE ONLY TO HIGHLIGHT SOME OF THE STRIDES THAT HAVE BEEN MADE, HOPING TO ENCOURAGE FURTHER EXAMINATION ON YOUR PART OF THE RECORD OF ACTUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS. I INVITE YOUR REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND ELABORATION ON THOSE PARTS OF THE RECORD WHICH I HAVE MENTIONED AS WELL AS THOSE FOR WHICH TIME DID NOT PERMIT DISCUSSION.

