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AFTER DINNER SPEECH  
CONCERNED CITIZENS OF THE CAPITAL DISTRICT  
ALBANY, NEW YORK

BY:  
STANLEY S. SCOTT  
SPECIAL ASSISTANT  
TO THE PRESIDENT

JUNE 23, 1973



## ALBANY AFTER DINNER SPEECH

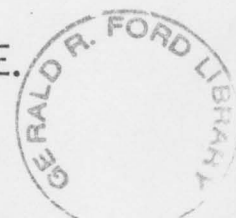
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WE HAVE SHARED A DELICIOUS DINNER TOGETHER AND I KNOW EVERYBODY IS ANXIOUS TO TAKE A TURN AROUND THE DANCE FLOOR. THEREFORE, I WILL MAKE MY REMARKS BRIEF.

I DON'T WANT TO BE LIKE THE SPEAKER WHO TOLD HIS AUDIENCE, "I HAVE ONLY TEN MINUTES AND HARDLY KNOW WHERE TO BEGIN." A VOICE CALLED OUT FROM THE CROWD, "BEGIN AT THE NINTH".

WHEN I READ THE HISTORY OF "CONCERNED CITIZENS", I WAS DEEPLY IMPRESSED BY THE MANY ACHIEVEMENTS YOU HAVE MADE IN JUST FIVE SHORT YEARS OF YOUR EXISTENCE.

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PEOPLE NATURALLY TEND TO BE DRAWN TO THOSE WHO ACHIEVE. ALL OF US HAVE A GREAT DEAL OF RESPECT FOR WINNERS.

WHEN I CONSIDER ALL IT TAKES TO BECOME A WINNER, I AM REMINDED OF A PERSONAL EXPERIENCE. SHORTLY AFTER I RECEIVED MY APPOINTMENT AS SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT, A GROUP OF MY OLD FRIENDS AT THE WHITE HOUSE INVITED ME TO LUNCH AT ONE OF WASHINGTON'S EXCLUSIVE SEAFOOD RESTAURANTS. I ORDERED A LOBSTER.

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THE VERY IDEA OF AMERICA IS OF A NATION WHERE ALL CITIZENS, OF ALL RACES AND CREEDS, MEN AND WOMEN ALIKE,



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CAN RISE JUST AS FAR AND AS FAST AS THEIR TALENTS AND ENERGIES WILL TAKE THEM. IN ONE DEGREE OR ANOTHER, WE CAN ALL BE WINNERS.

THE PROBLEMS THAT EFFECT THE MINORITY COMMUNITY ARE INNUMERABLE, AND THERE ARE TIMES WHEN A MAN JUST CAN'T SEEM TO MAKE IT ALONE. FOR THAT MAN, THE PROSPECT OF WINNING APPEARS A LONG WAY DOWN THE LINE. BUT IT IS REFRESHING TO KNOW THAT THERE ARE PEOPLE WILLING TO LEND A HAND WHEN IT IS NEEDED. FROM ALL REPORTS I HAVE RECEIVED, THE CONCERNED CITIZENS OF THE CAPITAL DISTRICT IS JUST SUCH AN ORGANIZATION.

THE VISION OF BECOMING A WINNER HAS BECOME A REALITY FOR MORE PEOPLE IN AMERICA THAN IN ANY OTHER COUNTRY AT ANY TIME IN HISTORY. THROUGH WORK AND SACRIFICE, THEY BROUGHT THEIR PERSONAL VISIONS TO FULFILLMENT--FOR THEMSELVES AND FOR THEIR CHILDREN.

I FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT EVERY INDIVIDUAL SHOULD BE GIVEN





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THE OPPORTUNITY TO RISE AS FAR AS HIS ENERGIES AND ABILITIES WILL CARRY HIM. CONSEQUENTLY, THE ADMINISTRATION WHICH I REPRESENT, IS DILIGENT IN THE DEFENSE OF OUR FREE ENTERPRISE SYSTEM, AND STANDS FIRM IN THE COMMITMENT TO REMOVE UNFAIR OBSTACLES WHICH MAY STILL STAND IN ANY INDIVIDUAL AMERICAN'S PATH.

EVEN AS WE WINE AND DINE UNDER THE STARS TONIGHT, WE KNOW THAT WHEN WE ARISE IN THE MORNING WE WILL COME FACE TO FACE WITH THE PROBLEMS THAT WE ENCOUNTER DAY TO DAY.

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INTELLIGENT, PROGRESSIVE GROUP OF CITIZENS WHO ARE WILLING TO SET THE FRAMEWORK FOR COORDINATED PRIVATE-PUBLIC EFFORTS.

THIS EVENING, I WANT TO STRESS THE POINT THAT WE MUST BEGIN TO THINK OF MINORITY ADVANCEMENT IN TERMS OF ECONOMICS. BLACK OWNED BUSINESSES, BLACK OPERATED FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, POLITICAL COALITIONS AND BUSINESS COALITIONS MUST BE OUR MAJOR CONCERNS. WE MUST ALSO RECOGNIZE OUR LACK OF EXPERTISE IN CERTAIN BUSINESS AREAS AND SEEK WAYS OF SATISFYING THIS DEFICIENCY.

ECONOMIC POWER AND POLITICAL POWER ARE WHERE THE SALVATION OF BLACKS IN SOCIETY TRULY LIES. THERE ARE MORE BLACK ELECTED OFFICIALS IN THIS COUNTRY TODAY THAN EVER BEFORE IN OUR HISTORY. YOU HAVE THE POWER, AS AN ORGANIZATION, TO SEE TO IT THAT BLACKS MORE FULLY PARTICIPATE IN GOVERNMENT AT ALL LEVELS. MORE BLACKS NEED TO BE ELECTED TO HELP RUN THEIR OWN LIVES.



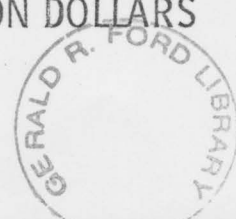
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THE PUBLISHER OF EBONY AND JET MAGAZINES RECENTLY MADE SOME REMARKS WHICH DRIVE HOME THE POINT I WISH TO MAKE. JOHN H. JOHNSON SAID: "THE ECONOMIC LIFE OF THIS NATION IS NO LONGER A SPECTATOR SPORT FOR BLACK AMERICANS. WE MUST ABANDON FOREVER THE POLITICS OF POVERTY AND THE PHILOSOPHY OF DESPAIR."

IF BLACK AMERICANS ARE TO WIN THIS MYTHICAL WAR WE'VE BEEN FIGHTING, THEN WE'VE GOT TO FIGHT ON THE REAL BATTLE-FIELD, AND THAT IS THROUGH ECONOMICS.

WE HAVE ALL LIVED THROUGH THE NEW FRONTIER, THE GREAT SOCIETY, AND EVEN THE NEW DEAL. NOW IT'S TIME WE AS A PEOPLE STARTED PUTTING OUR EFFORTS INTO A COMBINED ENERGY THAT IS DETERMINED AND CALCULATED TO BRING ABOUT GREATER PARTICIPATION IN THE ECONOMIC ABUNDANCE OF THIS NATION.

YOU MAY BE SURPRISED TO LEARN THAT BLACK AMERICANS SPEND MORE THAN 51 BILLION DOLLARS ANNUALLY. AT THE SAME TIME, WE EXERCISE NO CONTROL OVER THE 51 BILLION DOLLARS





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THAT WE SPEND. LITTLE OF THIS REVENUE IS CHANNELED BACK INTO THE BLACK COMMUNITY AND ONLY PENNIES BENEFIT THESE COMMUNITIES.

ALL OF THIS BOILS DOWN TO THE RATHER EMBARRASSING FACT THAT BLACKS SUPPLY LITTLE, MANUFACTURE EVEN LESS AND CONSUME A GREAT DEAL. LET ME STATE HERE, HOWEVER, THAT THERE ARE MANY BLACKS AND OTHER MINORITIES WHO ARE CAPABLE AND WILLING TO RUN THEIR OWN BUSINESSES BUT WHO HAVE NOT HAD A CHANCE. MANY OF THESE PEOPLE HAVE COME TO ME FOR ASSISTANCE. OTHERS HAVE COME TO PUBLIC AND PRIVATE AGENCIES FOR GUIDANCE.

NOT EVERYONE CAN SET UP HIS OWN BUSINESS. WHILE A SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS REQUIRES A PRODUCT, A MARKET AND CAPITAL, IT PRE-EMINENTLY REQUIRES SUCCESSFUL MANAGEMENT. GOING INTO BUSINESS IS A RISKY PROPOSITION WHERE SKILL AND EXPERIENCE ARE NEEDED IN MANY AREAS. YOUR REWARDS DO NOT COME RIGHT AWAY. THERE ARE ALL SORTS OF BARRIERS, BUT

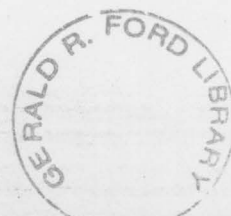


8.

THIS ADMINISTRATION IS DETERMINED TO PULL SOME OF THEM DOWN SO THAT MORE MINORITY GROUPS CAN MAKE THE ENTRY INTO BUSINESS.

MINORITY ENTERPRISE IS ONE WEAPON IN THE KIT OF TOOLS WHICH THIS ADMINISTRATION WILL USE IN APPROACHING THE COMPLEX PROBLEMS WHICH WE FACE. IT IS A UNIQUE TOOL-- NO OTHER ADMINISTRATION HAS PUT SO MUCH STRESS ON THE DIGNITY TO BE ATTAINED BY SELF-ACHIEVEMENT AND SELF DETERMINATION, BUT IT IS ONLY ONE TOOL. THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS THE BUILDINGS, THE FACTORIES, AND THE STORES HAVE BEEN HERE ALL THE TIME. THE TRAGEDY IS THAT MINORITIES JUST HAVEN'T HAD A PIECE OF THEM OR ANY HOPE OF GETTING A PIECE OF THEM UNTIL RECENTLY.

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THE TIME FOR MARCHING IS OVER.

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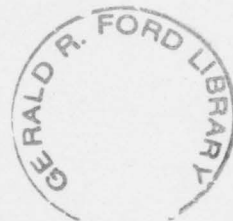
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