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PUSH, 2 other groups snub Jewish meet

by JAY JACKSON

Three of Chicago's major black organizations failed to show at a meeting between black and Jewish organizations at the Palmer House over the weekend.

The meeting, called by the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago, resulted following the resignation of U.S. Ambassador Andrew Young and his accusations that his resignation would threaten relations between blacks and Jews.

Despite the absence of Operation PUSH, The Woodlawn Organization and the Midwest Community Conference, representatives proclaimed the meeting a success.

"It has been a very constructive session...we talked about many things that should have been talked about long ago," said Clyd Brooks of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

He said that there were still "major differences" but that the meeting was an important first step in resolving those differences.

The meeting was convened amid continuing rumors that the ideological gap between Blacks and Jews is widening. Things appeared to come to a head with the forced resignation of U. N. Ambassador Andrew Young.



Jackson



Finney

Mr. Young resigned his post following the furor over a meeting with the U.N. representative for the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

Israeli government officials in Washington and Tel Aviv called for Mr. Young's resignation, alleging that his talk with the PLO representative was in violation of U. S. policy.

Secretary of State Cyrus Vance also expressed grave concern over the meeting and also is said to have demanded that President Carter fire Mr. Young.

Ray Epstein, of the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago said that Mr. Young resignation was discussed at the meeting and that was not the sole topic.

"Mr. Young's resignation is a very emotional matter both in the Black and Jewish communities. However, there are other issues which were discussed her today," he said.

Rabbi Hyman Perlmutter, of the Chicago Board of Rabbis, said, Relations have not been broken, but bent. We talked about our mutual differences."

Along with SCLC, other black organizations attending the meeting were the Urban League and NAACP.

U.N. debacle shifts to Chicago - in reverse

by JAY JACKSON

Andrew Young wanted the United States to talk to representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). He talked to their representative and that 15 minute conversation cost him his job as United States Ambassador to the United Nations. There is a general feeling within black communities across the nation that Mr. Young's resignation has caused the rift to widen between American Jewry and blacks.

Nowhere is the rift more apparent than here in Chicago and over the weekend, leaders from major Jewish and black civic organization met at the Palmer House to talk things over.

Six black organizations were invited to come to breakfast and talk. Under the format, each invited organization was to be represented by one person.

James Taylor from the Urban League came. Clyde Brooks of the Southern Christian Leadership Council came and Frank Williams from the NAACP was there.

However Operation PUSH. The Woodlawn Organization and the Midwest Community Conference chose not to come. They chose to boycott the meeting.

Their absence was called a "procedural difference." One person, they felt, could not adequately represent their organizations.

The meeting was not a "Summit". It was a hastily called affair with no formal agenda. It was a meeting that was to have set the tone and time for future meetings. It was also a meeting that was long overdue, — both blacks and Jews agreed on this point.

Commentary

The most strident harbinger of the Jewish black rift in Chicago has been the Rev. Jesse Jackson, head of Operation PUSH. It has been he who has taken to the airwaves and the printed media to decry U. S. policy of not dealing with the PLO.

It has been Jackson who has insisted that Israel is dead wrong for its uncompromising stance on refusing to discuss the creation of a Palestinian homeland, yet his organization refused to sit down and discuss issues which have grave complications at the local level.

Saturday's meeting was an obvious attempt by men and women of goodwill to initiate dialog between Jews and blacks at the local level.

Certainly, whatever resolutions that were arrived at in Parlor A will have no shattering effect in Tel Aviv or Washington.

They could have a positive effect on what will happen here in Chicago and perhaps this is why "procedural differences" kept Jackson and others from the conference table.

It seems that the debacle occurring in the U. N. has sifted down to Chicago and it is fast becoming very clear that international intransigence is leading to local lunacy.

Another meeting is scheduled after Labor Day. It is hoped that that will be enough time for differences to be ironed out that those who have cried for talks at the international level will not let whimpering differences interfere with the very real work that must be done here at home.

CHICAGO TRIBUNE MONDAY AUG. 27/1979

Let Young solve Vietnam dilemma

By MARY McGRORY

WASHINGTON — If the White House is serious about asking Andrew Young to undertake some "special envoy" assignment, there is one that is tailor-made for his talents.

Carter should dispatch Young to Hanoi to negotiate normalization.

The Carter Administration feels it is too weak to survive a right-wing backlash over recognition. It does not wish to disturb China, our new friend and Vietnam's perpetual enemy. It is reluctant, seemingly, to forego the propaganda advantage gained through the "Boat People." The policy seems dictated by those who still hope to win the war retroactively.

Andrew Young, who was an anti-war activist, has no hangups on the matter. He thinks we should have diplomatic relations with Vietnam. He even thinks it would help the President politically.

"He's in trouble with the Left in this country, not the Right," said Young in an interview the week before he resigned. "It would be a bold, leaderly thing to do."

The Administration view, as expressed by the Undersecretary for Far Eastern Affairs Richard Holbrooke, is that moral abhorrence over the treatment of refugees, along with Vietnam's oc-

cupation of Cambodia, make any US moves unthinkable. His principal contribution is to deny that we are even discussing the prospect.

The self-righteous argument feeds on itself. As long as the Vietnamese fear another invasion from China, they will continue to expel their ethnic Chinese. As long as they continue to expel their ethnic Chinese, we will refuse to consider lifting the trade embargo, and taking other steps which could make it possible for Vietnamese to live in their own country.

Young is good at cutting knots like that. And he would be trusted by the Vietnamese. Besides his reputation as a Third World hero, he has his recent history to commend him. The Vietnamese have deep suspicions of the State Department, as they confided to correspondent Seymour Hersh during his recent tour. They would see in Young a fellow victim of rigid Foggy Bottom orthodoxy.

They know that the Boat People are costing them dearly. They are losing technicians and managers they desperately need. Once the Left's favorite uppity small country, they are now viewed as genocidal monsters in world opinion.

Young has told them of the price of their present policies. When Joan Baez wrote her famous letter accusing Vietnam's new leaders of official cruelty, she asked the United Nations ambassador to sign. Young declined, but paid a visit to the Vietnam representatives at the UN and gave

them his opinion of their brutal attitudes towards minorities.

The Vietnamese are so desperate for recognition that it might take the work of a morning, and someone with a desire to see it happen, to work it out.

But there are greater considerations. Vietnam's neighbors are in something like panic. They are destabilized by the influx of refugees and fearful that Vietnam is bent on reconquering the old French Colonial empire. In much of the area, the return of Prince Norodom Sihanouk to Cambodia is pressed as a means of restoring order to Cambodia. The Vietnamese, who are more or less in control, are resisting.

Maybe Young, who met with the prince when he turned up at the UN last year, could convince them that the monarch, who has remained in exile a symbol of Cambodian unity, could put things together in the ravaged country. With Sihanouk rather than a Hanoi puppet to deal with, Western nations might actually send food to Cambodia instead of wringing their hands over the coming famine there because they lack assurances that any food sent would feed the inhabitants rather than the Vietnamese occupation troops.

It is an area where fear and loathing are very much in command all around. It's not unlike the South where Andrew Young marched with Mar-

tin Luther King Jr. Young's philosophy then was to talk to anyone he could find and show that person the unwanted consequences of persisting in the paranoid policies.

Despite the striped-pants view that Young is a mouthy amateur, he is, in fact, a gifted negotiator. In the furor over his departure, it is generally overlooked that in his forbidden, or at least improperly reported, encounter with the Palestine Liberation Organization, he accomplished a considerable feat, persuading the Palestinians to put off a divisive UN debate over Resolution 242, which divides the Israelis and the Palestinians.

If Young could persuade the Vietnamese to stop emptying the country of its "misfits" and dumping them on an inhospitable world, he might then fly to China and persuade Peking to take a "no-invasion" pledge, which might do even more to calm the neighborhood.

It's a job worthy of his talents. Sending him to Africa on a goodwill mission in September won't do much for Africa — or for Jimmy Carter, either; it would merely reinforce the widespread black notion that their idol is being used.

If Carter sent Young to Vietnam, he might persuade Americans who thought Young was the best man in the Administration that he prizes him as much as they do. And he might consider that those offended by "normalization" could blame Young rather than him.