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More bomb threats occur

By FRANCES WARD
News Editor

Aggies retain MEAC title; lose to Sooners in NCAA

At least five bomb threats have occurred at A&T this school year, the most recent being Wednesday in Crosby, Merrick and Price halls.

According to a report by A&T Officer, P.A. Feaster, at 9:51 a.m. an unknown caller, possibly a black male, phoned Dispatcher Jennifer Williams and stated that a bomb was set to go off at 10:30 a.m. at Crosby and two bombs were to go off "one after the other" at Merrick at 11:30 a.m. and 11:45 a.m.

Three A&T officers and three Greensboro police evacuated Crosby Hall immediately after the call and searched for the alleged bomb.

Officer Feaster said at about 9:52 a.m. Police Chief John G. Williams received a call from an unknown person. But Chief Williams said the only thing he could understand from the caller was "Like I said earlier." However, at 10:18 a.m., the dispatcher took another call, possibly from the same person. The caller stated that the bomb was in a book bag.

"Once you cleared the building (Crosby), you stopped everything. They took'em (bombs) in Merrick. The book bags are in Merrick now," the caller said.

According to the report, at 10:23 a.m., the search was completed at Crosby and began at Merrick.

"A complete sweep was made of the building," said Feaster.

Areas searched included restrooms, open offices, classrooms, lobbies, and mechanical equipment.

No incendiary devices were found during the searches and students were allowed to return to Crosby at 11 a.m. and to Merrick at 12:45 a.m.

Another building, Price Hall, was searched at about 1 p.m., after Greensboro Police informed A&T officers that an unknown person had called the department at 12:57 p.m. and said a bomb was to go off in the building.

A&T officers evacuated the building but did not find the alleged bomb.

"We've had more bomb threats than we usually have during the school year," said Joe Daughtry, director of University Police. "They are becoming irritating and disruptive."

But Daughtry said each time a prank bomb threat occurs, it must be treated as a real bomb threat to safeguard the lives of students and faculty on campus.

Some students and instructors were annoyed when they were told to evacuate the buildings.

"I think a student is calling in the bomb threats," said Julia Kendall, a graduate student. "And I feel that student is robbing other students of precious educational time."

Vanessa Anderson, a senior business administration major, said, "I think the caller was a student who probably had to take a test. I wish the bomb threats would stop because I don't want to be missing any classes. You have to make up the work anyway."

Taft Kelly, a junior transportation major, said, "The false bomb threats are bad for the school's image and I'm paying too much money to sit out of class. If a student knows who is doing this they should contact school officials."

Dr. Elon Kulli, assistant professor of English, held his class outside during the evacuation.

"The bomb threats are a disgrace, but we can't take them too lightly," Kulli said.

"Jazzing It" for 30 years

Internationally-recognized jazz saxophonist Lou Donaldson will return to A&T, which helped to nurture his musical talents.

Donaldson, who resides in New York City, and his group will present a free public concert in the Richard B. Harrison Auditorium on Sunday, March 17, at 6 p.m. The concert is a feature of the university's Lyricon Series.

Donaldson has enjoyed an outstanding jazz career for nearly 30 years. He became a success early on the alto saxophone with a Charlie Parker-derived style. Donaldson got his first break when he attracted the attention of Alfred Lion of Blue note Records. He began recording a long series of sessions, some under his own leadership, others with Art Blakey, Jimmy Smith, Milt Jackson and Thelonious Monk.

He works mostly around New York City today, but in recent years he has played in nearly every country in Western Europe. He led his own band for 25 years.

Donaldson, a native of Badin, N.C., enrolled as a student at A&T in the late 1940's. He majored in music and was a member of the university's marching and concert bands.

Prof. Walter Carlson, an A&T music teacher, remembers Donaldson as a student who showed tremendous potential.

"He majored in music and he was an outstanding basketball player," said Carlson.

Honors Convocation

Wednesday, March 20
**Spring fashions**

Aggies model the latest in casual and business attire at a Spring fashion show Thursday night in Harrison Auditorium. The fashion show was sponsored by the Gospel Choir and all proceeds will go towards a Spring tour.

Photograph by Jay Hall.

**Convocation**

Cardiss Collins is guest speaker

Chicago Congresswoman Cardiss Collins will be keynote speaker for the annual Honors Day Convocation at A&T State University Wednesday, March 22.

During the 10 a.m. ceremony in the Richard B. Harrison Auditorium, nearly 700 A&T students from the nine high schools in Guilford County.

“We are extremely pleased with the large number of students being honored,” said Dr. Roland Buck, vice chancellor for student affairs. “It reflects the excellence we are trying to perpetuate at the university.”

A six-term Congresswoman, Collins first filled the unexpired term of her husband who died in 1973.

Deeply interested in health care, women’s issues and telecommunications, she currently serves on the House committees on Energy Commerce and Government Operations. She also chairs the House Sub-Committee on Government Activities and Transportation.

Collins is treasurer of the Congressional Black Caucus, first vice chairwoman of the Democratic Women’s Caucus and a member of the Democratic Steering and Policy Committee.

Collins is a native of St. Louis, but grew up in Detroit. She attended Northwestern University and was formerly employed as a revenue auditor.

**A&T aids students and teachers in new cooperative program**

A shortage of certified teachers for vocational and technical programs will be addressed in a cooperative program between A&T and Guilford Technical Community College.

The program, announced by Chancellor Edward B. Fort, is the only one of its kind in the Southeastern part of the nation and will be funded by a $57,000 grant from the N.C. Department of Public Instruction.

In the pilot program, A&T and GTCC will provide the instruction for in-service teachers, community college students and others to become certified as trade and industrial teachers.

Fort said the program will be directed by Dr. Robert B. Pyle, chairman of the Department of Industrial Education at A&T. Dr. Jeanette Taylor will serve as project coordinator.

“We are pleased to have been selected for this program,” said Fort, “because it gives this university another important role in the professional development of trade and industrial teachers. It is also consistent with the state’s Quality Assurance Program.”

Pyle said the new program can lead to the associate degree, to be awarded by GTCC, and then to the Bachelor’s degree at A&T.

“GTCC will provide the technical and professional courses, while A&T will provide some technical and general courses,” Pyle said. “The unique feature of the program is that students may transfer up to 60 hours of professional courses towards a baccalaureate degree.”

He said the program was developed to meet the educational needs of full-time faculty members in the public schools who teach trade and industrial education courses but do not have earned degrees or teacher certification. The program will also enroll community college trade and industrial education teachers who do not have a four-year degree.

He said others eligible for the program include community college students and other persons who desire to become teachers in vocational or technical programs.

“There are literally hundreds of jobs in North Carolina in the trades,” Pyle said, “and there just aren’t enough qualified people to fill the jobs.”

He said the project initially will be conducted for the state’s Region V, but, if successful, will be broadened to include the entire state, with possible additional funding from the U.S. Congress.

Pyle said several area agencies are providing scholarships for persons interested in the program. Information about the program may be secured from Dr. Taylor at 379-7758.

**Jacksons jailed**

A&T freshmen, Jonathan and Jesse Jackson Jr., along with their father, the Rev. Jesse Jackson, an A&T alumnus, were arrested and jailed Monday after protesting at the U.S. Embassy against the apartheid in South Africa.

Protesting began outside the embassy on Nov. 21 of last year. Since that time over 2000 people have been arrested. The Jacksons were an unusual routine because they chose to be jailed after their denial to meet with the South African ambassadors. They were released Tuesday.

Earlier this year, Jackson’s wife, Jacquelyn, also an A&T alumna, was arrested while protesting in Chicago. His older sister, Howard University had been arrested in Washington, D.C. earlier also.

**Clapp seeks state office**

Wayne Clapp, an advance junior Sociology/Social Work major and president of the A&T chapter of Young People’s Democratic Association is seeking the presidency of the N.C. Federation of College Democrats.

He is the first Black in the state to run for the position. If elected, he will be chief administrator and organizer of all college and university Democratic organizations within the state.

Clapp is from Greensboro.
Buck: Be patient about rooms

By SHEBA HALL
Head Typist

To calm students who did not receive dormitory rooms for next year, Dr. Roland Buck, vice chancellor for student affairs, advises them to be patient.

"We are doing as much as humanly possible to make rooms available," he said.

This year, 338 women and 208 males did not receive room assignments.

The assignments were made through the random selection process, which began last year.

Buck said there are three ways that more rooms might become available: when students do not pay their $50 deposit by April 1, are dismissed for academic reasons or leave school because of financial difficulties.

Deposit deadline April 1

But all the students should not expect to receive rooms, Buck said.

"We must understand that, with a population of 5,000 students and only 2,800 available spaces, someone is going to be without housing." Some students will receive notification of room assignments before the end of the semester.

To assist those who do not get on-campus housing, a free housing guide will be made available by April.

"This guide will include information about rooms and apartment complexes and their costs," Buck said.

Ashford and Simpson to headline show

Ashford and Simpson, with special guests Billy Ocean and Eugene Wilde, will appear in concert in the Greensboro Coliseum on Sunday, March 17, at 7 p.m.

Concert tickets are $12 and are on sale at the Coliseum box office and all Ticketron outlets. All seats are reserved.


Billy Ocean's "Suddenly" album and "Lover Boy" single rank high on both charts.

Eugene Wilde's album, "Eugene Wilde," is among the best-sellers along with his single, "Gotta Get You Home Tonight."

ISA plans
observance
March 18-23

The International Students Association of A&T will observe its annual International Week March 18-23.

Hatem Hussaini, a former United Nations delegate, will deliver a major presentation — "Is Peace Possible in the Middle East?" — on Wednesday, March 20, at 7 p.m. in Gibbs Hall, Room 121.

Other activities include a discussion on world activities by Dr. Vijaya Kumar, Botlebose Leduma, and Wossen Araya.

Kumar will speak on "India Today," Leduma will speak on "Apartheid in South Africa," and Araya will speak on "Ethiopia Today."

The association will sponsor a tour of the Greensboro Museum on Tuesday, March 19, at 1 p.m., a film, "Canada Today," on Thursday, March 21 at 7 p.m., and a soccer match between A&T and Guilford College on Friday, March 22, at 4 p.m. in Aggie Stadium.

An international extravaganza, showcasing exhibits representing 25 nations and their foods, artifacts, dress and culture, will conclude the activities on Saturday, March 23, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. All activities are open to the public. DRESS FOR SUCCESS.

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Aggie Pride will do

Last month an A&T communications student attended the communications conference at Howard University.

Excited about possible employment, she was eager to get a whiff of the campus life of another Black university that has earned unlimited exposure thanks to its alumni, faculty and educational facilities.

So off she did go to D.C., curious to witness the wonders of this bastion of knowledge — wonders not possessed by her own school in the editorial eyes of publications such as Ebony, Black Enterprise or the National "Leader."

Each minute, each hour, she searched harder and harder for that something.

She witnessed a rally outside the student center, where the issues discussed were the same ones she'd heard at home for four years: "We are students; we have rights. We must stick together and not let the administration run over us; 'cause if not for us, it would not be here."

Just like home.

A friend, who attended Howard, told her that some recent A&T alumni would discuss their years at Howard at a conference tomorrow.

Ah! she thought. Maybe these overnight success stories, would be able to enlighten her.

Boy! Was she disappointed.

Instead of lectures on self-motivation, sleepless nights and hard, earnest work, she heard one woman say that it was the "Howard atmosphere" and "traditional background" that spawned her many accomplishments at such an early age.

Our Aggie had to think about that one.

The more she thought about it, the more she was glad that she attended A&T.

She thought: If I never learned anything else here, I learned that no matter whose footsteps you follow, you have to make your own footprints.

At no point did the Bison discuss her faculty or advisers who probably helped her along the way. Instead, she talked about "class," the "Howard culture," and the social standards of Howard students.

As the Bison completed her last sentence, the riddle was solved.

The something missing in Aggieland is a powerful overdose of the blueblood mentality: overbearing pride; self-importance.

This is something A&T doesn't want or need — Aggie Pride will do.

THE LEAD COLUMN ON THE OPINION PAGE IN WRITTEN BY THE EDITOR IN CHIEF OF THE A&T REGISTER. IT DOES NOT CARRY A BYLINE. NONE OF THE COLUMNS ON THIS PAGE NECESSARILY REFLECTS THE OPINION OF THE STAFF.

No one will save us, but us

By MALCOLM AARON
Guest editorial

While watching our team battle Oklahoma in the first round of the N.C.A.A tournament this writer came to the conclusion that we were simply out matched.

Looking at Oklahoma's team it soon became apparent that Oklahoma had some things that we didn't. These elements were depth, and one of the most dominating players in college basketball (Mr. Wayman Tisdale.) The combination worked like a one-two punch, flooring the Aggies.

But let us consider, what if Mr. Tisdale and others like him would have attended Black colleges. More and more, it seems that Black athletes are choosing predominately white universities. This abandonment of Black schools only aids in the underdevelopment of our institutions.

Recording sets precedent

By DWAYNE L. PINKNEY

Most of you have heard the "We are the world!" release written by Michael Jackson and Lionel Richie, and performed by some of the greatest names in pop music today.

It is refreshing to know that not all musicians are so caught up into themselves and their own personal endeavors that they can not get involved in so noble a task as this one.

This is not to say that this venture was totally free of egotism or self concern. One feels quite sure that most of the artists were well advised by their managers to take part in this gesture of kindness.

But, the amazing thing about this event in particular, and the music world in general, is its ability to bring together people of various and sundry backgrounds and synchronize their talents into at least some semblance of harmony.

This is something that politicians and statesmen have been trying to do — quite in vain — from time immemorial. Go to a rock concert and you will witness one of the most diverse crowds ever assembled under the same roof. Alas, even the Church has not been able to achieve that, yet.

Now, before anyone gets the wrong impression, let us plainly set forth that this writer is not advocating the idea that all of us become rockers and forget about the world's problems and live happily ever after.

But we can, and should, learn from this unifying spirit among musicians. They are indeed, setting a precedent, one which should be followed.
CAROWINDS. Sponsored by SGA "Men of Cooper Hall!", and the Political Science Society. Cost: $20/make payments in Cooper Hall Office. Initial payment begins Monday, March 25. No deposits. Final payment: April 19. This trip includes tickets and refreshments on bus. For more information contact Curtis Williams or members of Registration Committee - 379-7919.

ATLANTA, GA. SGA, "Men of Cooper Hall!", and Political Science Society are sponsoring a trip to: Atlanta, Ga. Saturday and Sunday, April 20 and 21. Cost: $60, make payments in Cooper Hall Office. Minimal deposit: $20. Final payment: Wednesday, April 3 by 7 p.m. This trip includes hotel reservations, meals at Morehouse, Six Flags tickets, tour of A.U. Center, MLK Center. For more information contact Curtis Williams or member of Registration Committee - 379-7919.

Jazzing
(continued from page 1)

student," recalled Carlson. "He went through out band program and also played in mall jazz musical groups in the area." Carlson said Donaldson's mother was a music teacher and band director, and it was through her hat he gained his first formal knowledge of music. After leaving A&T, Donaldson spent time in the .S. Navy and performed with the great Lakes Naval band. After leaving the service, he studied at the Darrow Institute in New York and began performing professionally in the 1950's.

THERE ARE TWO SIDES TO BECOMING A NURSE IN THE ARMY.

And they're both represented by the insignia you wear as a member of the Army Nurse Corps. The caduceus on the left means you're part of a health care system in which educational and career advancement are the rule, not the exception. The gold bar on the right means you command respect as an Army officer. If you're earning a BSN, write: Army Nurse Opportunities, P.O. Box 7713, Clifton, NJ 07015.

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THE BABCOCK SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT
AT WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY
ANNOUNCES
Scholarships for Minority Students for 1985-86

The Babcock Graduate School of Management at Wake Forest University is pleased to announce its Minority Scholarship Program. This scholarship program is designed to recognize minority students with exceptional academic achievement who possess the potential to rise to the highest leadership positions in management. The scholarships are available to outstanding students who would not otherwise be able to attend Wake Forest University for Graduate Study.

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Admissions & Financial Aid Applications are available upon request.

Please call or write:
DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS
Babcock Graduate School of Management
Wake Forest University
7697 Reynolds Station
Winston-Salem, NC 27109
(919) 761-5422

THE BABBCCOK SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

Dr. William H. Chafe, author of Civilities and Civil Rights and Professor of History at Duke University, will speak on "The Civil Rights Movement in Greensboro: Historical Issues and Answers." Free and open to the public, the lecture will be held on March 26 at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall of the Greensboro Coliseum. Responding to his remarks will be eyewitnesses to the sit-ins: Ms. Sara Herbin and Dr. George Simkins. The Rev.

Cleo McCoy will moderate the session. A reception will be held following the discussion.

Chafe's lecture is held in conjunction with the silver anniversary commemoration of the Greensboro sit-ins. The commemoration is a project of the Joint Committee on Civil Rights History, sponsored by A&T, the city of Greensboro, and UNC-Greensboro. The N.C. Humanities Committee is providing partial funding for the commemoration.

Duke professor to lecture on Civil Rights

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY
Babcock Graduate School of Management
Attention please! What has caused these Aggies to cast their gaze heavenward — prayer or the shot clock? Probably both.

The Aggie dog poses for the camera at the MEAC championship game.

Jimmy Browne goes up for a strong two while two Bison can only stand and watch.

Eric Boyd stands tall after receiving the MEAC player-of-the-year award.

Upbeat Aggies display the thrill of victory for their 1984-85 MEAC championship team.
Maya Angelou to visit G’boro

If you were to pick just one living person who represents the struggle of Blacks for civil rights, for equal rights, and of the human being for dignity, that one person would be Maya Angelou, according to the Greensboro Human Relations Commission and Greensboro City School. On Tuesday, March 26, Angelou will speak to Greensboro high school students at 10 a.m. in the War Memorial Gymnasium, Greensboro Coliseum. The presentation is free and open to the public.

Angelou, who lives in Winston-Salem, is the first Reynolds Professor of American Studies at Wake Forest University. She has written four autobiographical best sellers, I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings, Gather Together in My Name, Singin’ and Swingin’ and Gettin’ Merry Like Christmas, and The Heart of a Woman, as well as four books of poetry: Just Give Me a Cool Drink of Water ‘Fore I Diie, Oh Pray My Wings Are Gonna Fit Me Well, Still I Rise and Shaker, Why Don’t You Sing? Her articles have appeared in such publications as the New York Times, Red Book and Cosmopolitan. In 1976 she was accorded the Ladies Home Journal award “Woman of the Year in Communication,” and was among the magazines top 100 most influential women.

In the 1960s at the request of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., she became the northern coordinator for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. She has made over 150 television appearances on network and local talk shows, and her renowned autobiographical accounting of her youth, I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings was aired as a two-hour television special for CBS in 1979. She wrote the 1983 stage play On A Southern Journey and served as writer and producer for Sisters, Sisters for Twentieth Century Fox.

Blacks moving up in fashion world as top executives

While Black workers have long been the backbone of the fashion industry, working in the factories and warehouses, some Blacks are finally beginning to rise to top-paying, decision-making positions, according to an article in the March issue of Black Enterprise magazine.

The fashion industry isn’t just glamorous jobs like modeling or designing; behind-the-scenes managerial work can also be very rewarding both professionally and financially.

“These jobs are in areas that usually require some technical skills that are not terribly difficult to acquire,” according to Micky Janis, president of the recruiting firm Business Careers. “They involve purchasing, operations control, personnel planning, production scheduling, administration and a host of other skills.”

Valerie Roberson, a textile stylist for J.P. Stevens & Co. Inc., is one of the few Black women working in that segment of the industry. Her job, according to Black Enterprise, requires creativity, an excellent sense of color and design, and sound technical knowledge of how fabrics are constructed and produced.

“I wanted to be a fashion designer initially, but, when I found out that designers are largely influenced by fabric, which is their medium, I realized that I could truly have an impact on fashion by designing the fabrics,” says Roberson, who earns over $30,000 a year.

John Harrison doesn’t need an eye for color to work in the fashion industry. Harrison is a 29-year-old costing engineer for Cuddle-Teen Frocks. He determines the costs of a garment by taking into account overhead, raw materials, labor and time, before the pattern is ever cut.

“I like figuring out puzzles,” Harrison told Black Enterprise. “I make suggestions on how a garment can be produced at the lowest possible cost.”

Although a college degree is not always necessary, some specialized training from a trade school or a two-year college program is a definite boost to entering the industry. Harrison completed a two-year manufacturing engineering program at New York City’s Fashion Institute of Technology and Roberson is a graduate of the Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science.

From fabric production to apparel manufacturing to retailing, there are many jobs available which provide good salaries. John Harris, a 33-year-old operations assistant store manager from D.M. Reads in the Connecticut area, switched to store operations from a job in merchandising.

“I wanted to get a complete understanding of how a retail store works,” he told Black Enterprise. “If you’re determined and don’t become discouraged, you can go far.”

Harris, like many others, is hoping to climb the retail staff ladder. Salaries begin at minimum wage for sales personnel and can go as high as $400,000 for top-level executives.

Black Enterprise is available on newsstands for $1.75 or by writing the publishers, 130 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10011.

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POSITIONS AVAILABLE for the 1985-1986 A&T Register staff. Persons interested should stop by the Register House for more details. Our office is located across from Graham Hall.

NEXT EDITION of the A&T Register is Friday, March 22.

SGA will show movies, “Enter the Dragon” and “Game of Death” starring Bruce Lee on Friday March 22 at 8 p.m. in the Student Union Ballroom. Admission is free of charge.

Pegasus

Aggies No. 1 at home.

By JOE BROWN

Sports Editor

Aggies fans could switch their television sets to a very important channel Thursday night at 8 o’clock—Channel 45.

If you tuned your TV set to Channel 45, you saw the all-hearted Aggie basketball team take on the star-studded Oklahoma Sooners. The Aggies played with the heart and pride that represented A&T and the Sooners played with a talent that represented himself, Wayman Tisdale.

We knew the Aggies were up against the number one ranked team in the Midwest division, but the explosive offensive of A&T made it seem as if they had forgotten that detail in the first half of the game.

Sounds of cheers could be heard through the vacant halls of the dormitories as the Aggies showed the Sooners that it wasn’t going to be an easy night. Easy wins usually come with easy opportunities to score against your opponent, but the MEAC Tourney champs wanted to make the situation a whole lot harder for the Tisdale crew.

There were moments of gleeam for the Aggie team. A gleeam possessing each player to play a little above his own ability. Staying above their ability meant staying in front of their opponents, but coming down from that ability resulted in the end of the season for the Aggies.

The Aggie defense keyed on the All-American Tisdale, but there are more than one way to score in a game and it was the sharpshooting of Kennedy and Bowlow.

The Aggies played with a style of a winning team fighting to win more, but came up short in the first round of the NCAA playoffs. Little do they know, evenhough they lost, the Aggies’ basketball team always have a place to be number one—home at A&T.

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(in coupon necessary)
Reagan not for homeless - Manning Marable

In New York City, there are usually anywhere from 35,000 to 60,000 people who sleep in the streets, alleys, and shelters of the city on any given night. Earlier this year officials conservatively pegged the number of homeless people in New York state at 87,000 with over three-fourths of this number in the New York metropolitan area.

Why are several million American living in sewers, subway passages, and alleys, and millions more living as renters in decaying and collapsing apartment buildings? The real roots of the problem consist of Federal apathy, repressive tax laws, the profit motives of landlords, and gentrification. The Reagan administration's hostility towards the goal of decent, affordable shelter for all Americans has always been apparent. Once in office, Reagan destroyed the Co-op Bank and ordered major cuts in the Community Development Block Grant Program. When the President appointed a "Housing Commission" to study the problem of urban shelter, 26 out of 27 commissioners were white, and most represented construction firms, financial and insurance institutions. In 1985, the Federal housing budget amounted to $29 billion; four years later, the total came to under $10 billion. Funds were slashed which gave the poor enough subsidies to pay for their housing. This had a devastating impact on low income people in every city. For example, during Carter's administration, New York City received funds to rebuild or construct 4,000 units under Section 8 of the Federal Housing Act. Today this program does not exist. In 1983, New York obtained funds to provide rent subsidies to 7,000 new households annually. By 1985, only enough money for 3,500 new families is available.

Despite the so-called economic recovery of 1983-85, the crisis in providing shelter for the homeless is becoming more severe. A 1984 report by the Department of Housing and Urban Development claimed that there were less than 350,000 people in the U.S. without a home. But most experts place the figure at two million. Poor people and low-income workers—especially Blacks, Hispanics, the permanently unemployed, female-headed households—rarely make the headlines. But their housing crisis is ten times more severe than the spectre of foreclosure on the millions of whites, affluent suburban families whose mortgage payments now exceed their disposable income.

The tax laws have always favored property holders over the interests of renters, which also contributes to the housing crisis. A total of $40 billion in tax deductions for interest on mortgage payments goes to the middle and upper classes annually. Renters - the majority of Blacks, Hispanics, people with less than a high school education, and roughly one-third of all white families - essentially pay the property taxes of their landlords, who in turn receive all the benefits.

But the fundamental factor in the housing shortage for the poor rests with the landlords. In New York City, 50,000 landlords were offered bonuses of several thousand dollars for each homeless family they secured as renters. The city's strategy was simple. The number of homeless families who had been evicted from their apartments and who were placed in low-cost hotels at the city's expense had soared from 1,400 in January 1983 to nearly 3,300 in late 1984. The bonuses would serve as an incentive to landlords to accept the families, while reducing the city's public housing costs. Yet after eighteen months, only 200 families had received new apartments.

Landlords refused to accept poor families partially because of the "risk" that they would not obtain rent. But behind this objection was another fiscal consideration. As tens of thousands of young professionals move back into the urban centers, tenements abandoned long ago could be obtained for peanuts, renovated, and rented to "yuppies" at $1,000 a month. Realtors and speculators do not invest in housing sectors where profit margins are low.

The only resolution to the housing crisis of the poor is a political strategy which preserves the right to safe, clean shelter as an inalienable right. This would include a massive Federal effort to subsidize cooperative housing programs, tenant controlled housing, and other basic reforms. We cannot leave the private sector's "initiatives" to dictate the approach toward a national housing strategy.

Decent housing is a human right for all.

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Red Lobster.

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Please see telephone directory for Red Lobster Restaurant nearest you.