

REMARKS OF WILLIAM S. WOODSIDE, CHAIRMAN OF AMERICAN CAN COMPANY
THE MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., NETWORK OF SCHOOLS CONFERENCE DINNER
JANUARY 11, 1985

(INTRODUCTION BY NELLIE JORDAN)

THIS IS A VERY SPECIAL SYMPOSIUM AND EVENING.

I DO NOT WANT TO INTRUDE UPON IT,

BUT I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE A FEW MOMENTS TO TELL YOU WHY THIS EVENT HAS SUCH MEANING TO US AT AMERICAN CAN AND WHY WE ARE SO PLEASED THAT YOU ARE HERE TO SHARE IT WITH US.

THIS SYMPOSIUM EVOLVED PARTLY OUT OF THE RELATIONSHIP WE HAVE DEVELOPED WITH ONE OF THE NETWORK SCHOOLS, MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR, HIGH SCHOOL IN MANHATTAN, BUT IT IS ALSO A TRIBUTE TO WHAT MARTIN LUTHER KING HIMSELF MEANT, AND CONTINUES TO MEAN, TO THIS COUNTRY,

THREE YEARS AGO, WE WERE ONE OF THREE CORPORATIONS THAT THE NEW YORK CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROACHED ABOUT A SPECIAL PROJECT CALLED JOIN-A-SCHOOL, THE IDEA WAS CLEAR ENOUGH: MATCH UP A PUBLIC SCHOOL WHICH HAD IMPORTANT NEEDS, WITH A CORPORATION THAT HAD RESOURCES WHICH COULD MEET THOSE NEEDS,

BUT THE BOARD WANTED MORE THAN A CHECK, THEY WANTED TO BRING TOGETHER TWO INSTITUTIONS THAT HAD LITTLE CONTACT WITH EACH OTHER TO SEE, IF, OVER A PERIOD OF TIME, THEY MIGHT DISCOVER THEY HAD MORE IN COMMON THAN THEY HAD FIRST REALIZED,

THE PARTNERSHIP HAS NOT ALWAYS BEEN EASY, WE BEGAN SLOWLY, WITH PROJECTS THAT WEREN'T MUCH MORE THAN MEETINGS, WE HAD TO DEFINE OUR

RELATIONSHIP CAREFULLY SO IT WOULD BE IN FACT, WHAT IT WAS IN THEORY -- A PARTNERSHIP IN WHICH EACH PARTNER IS AN EQUAL.

SO WE STRUGGLED TOGETHER. AND, LEARNED TOGETHER. AND WE CONTINUE TO LEARN ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT LESSONS OF DR, KING'S TEACHINGS -- THAT WHAT UNITES US IS FAR MORE POWERFUL THAN WHAT DIVIDES US.

Too OFTEN IN THIS COUNTRY, WE DEVELOP IDENTITIES BASED ON THE NEGATIVE FACTORS IN OUR LIVES -- THE FEARS, ATTITUDES AND BARRIERS THAT KEEP US APART. IF WE ARE TO MOVE FORWARD, IF WE ARE TO BECOME THE KIND OF SOCIETY DR. KING ENVISIONED, WE NEED TO MOVE IN ANOTHER DIRECTION. WE MUST BUILD ON THE STRENGTH OF OUR INDIVIDUAL CULTURES AND HERITAGES, ON THOSE POSITIVE CHARACTERISTICS THAT MAKE US UNIQUE, AND THEN DEVELOP A BROADER IDENTITY BASED ON THE GOALS, HOPES AND VALUES WE SHARE IN COMMON.

ABOVE ALL, THIS MEANS PERSONAL CONTACT AND UNDERSTANDING, BOTH ARE ANATHEMA TO SOCIAL PREJUDICE, WITHOUT PERSONAL CONTACT AND UNDERSTANDING, THERE CANNOT BE REAL JUSTICE OR EQUALITY. AND WITHOUT REAL JUSTICE AND EQUALITY, WE CAN NEVER ACHIEVE A TRUE SENSE OF COMMUNITY.

OUR JOINT EFFORTS, BOTH THOSE INSIDE THE SCHOOL AND THOSE IN THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE, SUCH AS THIS SYMPOSIUM, CONTINUE TO REMINDED US THAT NO COMMUNITY CAN FLOURISH IF ITS PEOPLE AND INSTITUTIONS LACK MUTUAL RESPECT, IF THEY LIVE APART FROM EACH OTHER WITHOUT CONTACT, WITHOUT KNOWLEDGE, WITHOUT MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING,

I AM ONE OF THE PERSONS CONNECTED WITH THIS EXCITING PROGRAM WHO NEVER HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET DR. KING. ONE DID NOT HAVE TO MEET DR, KING, THOUGH, IN ORDER TO BE PROFOUNDLY INFLUENCED BY HIM,

I GREW UP IN THE BORDER SOUTH -- IN BALTIMORE, MARYLAND AND LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY. RACIAL SEPARATION WAS A GIVEN IN THOSE CITIES, AND IN MY YOUTH, I ACCEPTED THE STATUS QUO -- JUST LIKE EVERYONE ELSE.

WORLD WAR II MODERATED BY VIEWS SOMEWHAT, BUT FOR THE MOST PART, I DIDN'T THINK MUCH ABOUT THE STATUS OF BLACKS IN THIS COUNTRY.

MARTIN LUTHER KING CHANGED THAT. HE DRAMATIZED AND MADE CLEAR TO ME, THROUGH THE FORCE OF HIS PERSONALITY AND BELIEFS, WHAT BLACK PEOPLE HAD BEEN EXPERIENCING FOR MORE THAN A CENTURY. HE DID THE SAME FOR MILLIONS OF OTHER WHITE AMERICANS, THOUSANDS OF WHOM JOINED HIM ON HIS MARCHES.

HE WAS INDEED A GREAT BLACK LEADER. BUT MARTIN LUTHER KING ALSO WAS A GREAT AMERICAN LEADER. HE CARED ABOUT EVERYONE WHO WAS HUNGRY, WHO WAS HOMELESS, WHO NEEDED A JOB, WHO LACKED EDUCATION, WHO HAD NO MEDICAL CARE, WHO WAS DENIED BASIC JUSTICE AND OPPORTUNITY, AND THIS IS WHY WE HONOR HIM.

MORE THAN ANY OTHER PERSON OF HIS TIME, MARTIN LUTHER KING WAS THE CONSCIENCE OF HIS COUNTRY.

HE HELPED US SEE THROUGH THE COMPLEX WEBS OF DEFENSE WE OFTEN WEAVE AROUND OUR PERSONAL LIVES WHICH PREVENT US FROM ACTING ON OUR BEST IMPULSES.

HE MADE US UNDERSTAND THAT THERE IS NO MIDDLE GROUND BETWEEN RIGHT AND WRONG, JUSTICE AND INJUSTICE.

HE PROVED TIME AND AGAIN THAT ONE PERSON CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE. HE TAUGHT AN ENTIRE NATION, AND MUCH OF THE WORLD THE MEANING OF SUCH WORDS AS BELIEF, CONVICTION, COMMITMENT.

MOST OF THE NATION WILL NOT CELEBRATE THE BIRTHDAY OF MARTIN LUTHER KING UNTIL NEXT YEAR. NEW YORK IS FORTUNATE. WE CELEBRATE IT A YEAR IN ADVANCE OF EVERYONE ELSE.

OTHER CELEBRATIONS WILL BE LARGER THAN THIS SYMPOSIUM, THEY WILL ATTRACT MORE PUBLIC ATTENTION. THEY WILL BE MORE ELABORATE, NONE CAN BE MORE MEANINGFUL, THOUGH, BECAUSE YOU REPRESENT THE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS NAMED IN HONOR OF DR. KING AS WELL AS THE ORGANIZATIONS WHICH WILL HELP CARRY FORWARD HIS MESSAGE. AND, IT IS THE YOUNG PEOPLE WHO WILL KEEP ALIVE THE IDEALS AND PROGRAMS OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, IDEALS WHICH I HOPE WILL LEAD THEM TO A GREATER UNDERSTANDING OF JUSTICE AND EQUALITY.

THUS, THIS SYMPOSIUM TAKES ITS MEANING THROUGH YOU, THE EDUCATORS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS. TODAY AND TOMORROW, YOU WILL EXCHANGE IDEAS AND EXPERIENCES TO MAKE THIS NEW NATIONAL HOLIDAY A DAY THAT PERPETUATES NOT JUST THE MEMORY OF THE MAN, BUT THE VIGOR OF HIS IDEAS, NOT JUST THE FORCE OF HIS PERSONALITY, BUT THE POWER OF HIS BELIEF,

WE HOPE THIS NETWORK OF SCHOOLS WILL SET THE TONE FOR ALL THE CELEBRATIONS TO FOLLOW IN THE YEARS TO COME. I SALUTE YOUR EFFORTS AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR INVOLVEMENT.

DRAFT REMARKS

NELLIE JORDAN - MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Martin Luther King, Jr. Network of Schools

Symposium Dinner Program

Versailles Room - Sheraton Center - New York

Friday, January 11, 1985

GOOD EVENING LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. IT IS INDEED A PLEASURE TO BE HERE TONIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROGRAM WHICH HAS BEEN IN THE PLANNING FOR SO MANY MONTHS. AS YOU KNOW, WE ARE HERE TO LAUNCH A MAJOR EFFORT TO UNITE THE MORE THAN TWENTY FIVE SCHOOLS ACROSS THIS NATION NAMED IN HONOR OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. FOR THE PURPOSE OF EXCHANGING INFORMATION AND TO STIMULATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF PROGRAMS WHICH WILL INVOLVE THOUSANDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE CELEBRATION OF DR. KING'S BIRTHDAY AS A NATIONAL HOLIDAY. BUT, BEFORE WE BEGIN THE EVENING PROGRAM, ALLOW ME TO ASK THE REVEREND CALVIN O. BUTTS, EXECUTIVE PASTOR OF THE ABYSSINIAN BAPTIST CHURCH HERE IN MANHATTAN TO SAY THE INVOCATION. REV. BUTTS, WOULD YOU PLEASE COME TO THE MICROPHONE?

INVOCATION BY REV. BUTTS

THANK YOU REVEREND BUTTS. AS SOME OF YOU MAY KNOW, REVEREND BUTTS HAS ALSO AGREED TO SPEAK AGAIN TONIGHT -- A BIT LATER IN THE PROGRAM.

ALSO TONIGHT, WE WILL HAVE THE PLEASURE OF HEARING FROM CHARLAYNE HUNTER-GAULT, WHO HERSELF, PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT IN THIS COUNTRY BEFORE BEGINNING HER CAREER AS AN EMMY

AWARD-WINNING JOURNALIST.

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ALSO WITH US TONIGHT AMONG OUR MANY HONORED GUESTS ARE SEVERAL PEOPLE WHOM I'D LIKE TO INTRODUCE TO YOU NOW.

CONGRESSMAN TED WEISS, WHO REPRESENTS OUR DISTRICT OF MANHATTAN IN WASHINGTON...

DEPUTY MAYOR FOR THE CITY OF NEW YORK KENNETH LIPPER...

MANHATTAN BOROUGH PRESIDENT, ANDREW STEIN...

THE HONORABLE JAMES REGAN, PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE CITY OF NEW YORK...

DR. NATHAN QUINONES, CHANCELLOR OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR THE CITY...

FRANK MACCHIAROLA, WHO LAUNCHED THE JOIN-A-SCHOOL PROGRAM AS FORMER CHANCELLOR, AND WHO NOW HEADS THE NEW YORK CITY PARTNERSHIP...

FORMER SECRETARY OF HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE, JOSEPH A. CALIFANO, WHOSE REPORT TO GOVERNOR CAREY WAS THE CATALYST FOR LAUNCHING JOIN-A-SCHOOL IN NEW YORK CITY...

WILLIAM S. WOODSIDE, CHAIRMAN OF AMERICAN CAN COMPANY, WHO WE WILL HAVE THE PLEASURE OF HEARING FROM LATER IN THE PROGRAM...

OUR SYMPOSIUM ATTENDEES AND WORKSHOP LEADERS...

AS WELL AS HONORED REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE COMMUNITY AND AMERICAN CAN COMPANY. NOW PLEASE ENJOY YOUR DINNERS. OUR PROGRAM WILL CONTINUE A BIT LATER IN THE EVENING.

NOW THAT WE HAVE ALL ENJOYED DINNER, AND COFFEE HAS BEEN SERVED, I'D LIKE TO CONTINUE WITH OUR PROGRAM FOR THIS EVENING.

AS YOU KNOW, WE AT MARTIN LUTHER KING HIGH IN MANHATTAN HAVE A CORPORATE PARTNER -- AMERICAN CAN COMPANY. THIS SYMPOSIUM IS AN

OUTGROWTH OF THIS SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP, NOW IN ITS THIRD YEAR, BETWEEN SO MANY OF THE PEOPLE AT AMERICAN CAN AND OUR FACULTY, ADMINISTRATION AND STUDENTS. IT IS MY PLEASURE TO INTRODUCE AT THIS TIME WILLIAM S. WOODSIDE, CHAIRMAN OF AMERICAN CAN COMPANY.

BILL WOODSIDE WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF AMERICAN CAN IN 1980 AND SERVED AS PRESIDENT FROM 1975 UNTIL APRIL 1981. HE HAS BEEN A DIRECTOR OF THE COMPANY SINCE 1975.

AS CHAIRMAN, BILL HAS BEEN THE ARCHITECT OF AMERICAN CAN'S SUCCESSFUL STRATEGIC REDIRECTION PROGRAM INTO INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES.

BORN IN COLUMBUS, OHIO IN 1922, MR. WOODSIDE EARNED A BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION FROM LEHIGH UNIVERSITY IN 1947 AND A MASTER'S DEGREE IN ECONOMICS FROM HARVARD UNIVERSITY IN 1950. HE JOINED AMERICAN CAN THAT SAME YEAR AS THE COMPANY'S FIRST ECONOMIST.

BILL, WOULD YOU PLEASE COME UP?

(REMARKS OF WILLIAM S. WOODSIDE)

CHARLAYNE HUNTER-GAULT IS THE NEW YORK-BASED NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT FOR "THE MACNEIL/LEHRER NEWSHOUR," AMERICA'S ONLY NATIONWIDE HOUR OF EVENING [NEWS. MS](#). HUNTER-GAULT'S ASSIGNMENT AS A NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT AND BACK-UP ANCHOR FOR NEWSHOUR FOLLOWS EIGHT YEARS AS A

CORRESPONDENT FOR "THE MACNEIL/LEHRER REPORT." AND, AS I MENTIONED EARLIER, SHE RECENTLY RECEIVED AN EMMY FOR HER WORK COVERING THE U.S. MILITARY ACTION IN GRANADA.

MS. HUNTER-GAULT BEGAN HER JOURNALISTIC CAREER AS A "TALK OF THE TOWN" REPORTER FOR THE NEW YORKER. SHE LEFT THAT MAGAZINE AFTER WINNING A RUSSELL SAGE FELLOWSHIP TO STUDY AT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY, WHERE SHE SERVED ON THE STAFF OF TRANS-ACTION MAGAZINE. IN 1967, SHE BECAME PART OF AN INVESTIGATIVE NEWS TEAM FOR WRC-TV, WASHINGTON, D.C., WHERE SHE ALSO ANCHORED THE LOCAL EVENING NEWS.

IN 1968, MS. HUNTER-GAULT JOINED THE NEW YORK TIMES AS A METROPOLITAN REPORTER SPECIALIZING IN COVERAGE OF THE URBAN BLACK COMMUNITY.

DURING AN EIGHT-YEAR STINT WITH THE TIMES, HER WORK EARNED NUMEROUS AWARDS, INCLUDING THE NATIONAL URBAN COALITION AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED URBAN REPORTING AND THE LINCOLN UNIVERSITY UNITY AWARD.

PRIOR TO COVERING WORLD AND NATIONAL NEWS, CHARLAYNE HUNTER-GAULT MADE NEWS, BACK IN THE '60S, WHEN SHE BECAME THE FIRST BLACK WOMAN TO INTEGRATE THE THEN ALL-WHITE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA. WE HAVE ASKED MS. HUNTER-GAULT TO SHARE HER RECOLLECTIONS OF THAT EXPERIENCE WITH US TONIGHT, TO TALK ABOUT HOW DR. KING INFLUENCED HER, AND WHAT CHANGES HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN THIS NATION SINCE THOSE LANDMARK YEARS.

MS. HUNTER-GAULT....

THANK YOU, MS. HUNTER-GAULT.

INTRODUCTION OF REV. CALVIN O. BUTTS.

IT IS MY PLEASURE TO AGAIN ASK THE REVEREND CALVIN O. BUTTS,
EXECUTIVE PASTOR OF THE ABYSSINIAN BAPTIST CHURCH TO SPEAK. REVEREND
BUTTS (COPY TO COME)

THANK YOU AGAIN, REVEREND BUTTS.

AND THANK YOU, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN FOR JOINING US THIS EVENING TO
HELP INAUGURATE THE MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. FAMILY OF SCHOOLS
NETWORK. TODAY, WITH OUR WORKSHOPS WE EXCHANGED A GREAT DEAL OF
INFORMATION, AND GOT TO KNOW EACH OTHER BETTER. THIS EVENING WE HAD
THE MOST INFORMATIVE EXPERIENCE OF HEARING FROM THREE REMARKABLE AND
THOUGHTFUL INDIVIDUALS.

IMPORTANTLY, WE ARE WELL UNDERWAY WITH OUR PROGRAM TO HONOR DOCTOR
KING. EARLIER TODAY, WE HAD THE HONOR OF HEARING FROM MRS. CHRISTINE
KING FARRIS, THE LATE DR. KING'S SISTER WHO HEADS, WITH MRS. CORETTA
SCOTT KING, THE FEDERAL COMMISSION TO CELEBRATE DR. KING'S BIRTHDAY AS
A NATIONAL HOLIDAY IN 1986. MRS. FARRIS, WHO REPRESENTED THE KING
FAMILY AND THE KING CENTER FOR NON-VIOLENT SOCIAL CHANGE, WAS UNABLE TO
ATTEND THIS DINNER, AND IS BACK IN ATLANTA TONIGHT WORKING ON

PREPARATIONS FOR NEXT TUESDAY, WHEN DR. KING'S BIRTHDAY WILL BE CELEBRATED IN THE SCHOOLS AND IN SEVERAL STATES ACROSS THE NATION. I'D LIKE TO END THIS EVENING'S PROGRAM BY SHARING WITH YOU A QUOTE FROM MRS. FARRIS' SPEECH EARLIER TODAY...

QUOTE TO COME

THANK YOU ALL FOR COMING AND GOOD NIGHT.

MLK Network Symposium Dinner Speakers Agenda

6:30 p.m. Reception
Princess Ballroom - Sheraton Centre

7:30 p.m. Dinner Seating Sheraton Center
Versailles Terrace -

7:40 p.m. Pre-Dinner Program seated)
(Commences after all

 Nellie R. Jordan - Master of Ceremonies

 Jordan introduces Rev. Calvin O. Butts

7:42 p.m. Invocation
Rev. Calvin O. Butts

7:45 p.m. Welcoming Remarks & Recognition of Dignitaries
Nellie R. Jordan

Entrees Served

8:55 p.m. Post-Dinner Program Commences
(After dessert is served)

9:00 p.m. Jordan introduces William S. Woodside

Remarks
William S. Woodside

Jordan introduces Hunter-Gault

9:10 p.m. Keynote Address
Charlayne Hunter-Gault

9:25 p.m. Jordan introduces Rev. Calvin O. Butts

Keynote Address
Rev. Calvin O. Butts

9:40 p.m. Jordan concludes Dinner Program

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