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NYTIMES

PRESIDENT URGED TO SPEAK ON RACE

Farmer Says Nixon Should
'Make Up His Mind Soon'

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27 (UPI)—James Farmer, who quit this month as one of the highest ranking blacks in the Nixon Administration, urged the President today to raise his voice in behalf of racial justice and to redeem his campaign promise to "bring us together."

Mr. Farmer said he was "not entirely convinced" that the President had been persuaded by forces within the Administration and the Republican party to write off the black vote.

The former Assistant Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare for Administration appealed to Mr. Nixon to "make up his mind soon so we'll know where he stands."

In an interview on CBS television's "Face the Nation" program, Mr. Farmer, founder and former national director of the Congress of Racial Equality, said he quit in the belief that he personally could achieve more outside Government toward avoiding "a racial confrontation of a violent nature" in America.

Notes Trained Veterans

Black veterans returning from Vietnam are trained in guerrilla warfare and will not accept a position at the bottom of the social ladder, he said.

Mr. Farmer said there was "no final straw" that forced him to resign, although he was on the verge of quitting when Mr. Nixon nominated Judge Clement F. Haynsworth of South Carolina and Judge G. Harold Carswell of Florida to the Supreme Court without his advice.

He said he was "terribly disappointed" that the Administration's commitment to black capitalism, or Federal financial support of minority-owned businesses, was "still rhetoric" because of a lack of funds.

He expressed concern over Administration campaign strategy in the November elections, especially Vice President Agnew's role, which "served to increase the splits" in the nation.

On the other hand, Mr. Farmer praised some Administration efforts, notably Mr. Nixon's proposed family assistance plan, which he called "the first constructive change since the nineteens thirties" in the welfare program.

Jackson and Conyers

In a separate interview, on A.B.C. television's issues and answers, two other negroes, Representative John B. Conyers, a Democrat from Michigan, and the Rev. Jesse Jackson of Chicago predicted that a coalition of the economically deprived, including jobless whites and the young as well as minority groups, would emerge to deny Mr. Nixon re-election in 1972.

Mr. Jackson, national director of the antipoverty Operation Breadbasket of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, predicted a "young, multi-racial attack against the seniority system" that sanctioned heavy spending on the Vietnam war to the neglect of domestic needs.

Mr. Conyers said the aim when the 92d Congress convened in January would be to break the grip of entrenched Southern Democratic legislators on committee chairmanships. "For the first time in years, we have the chance to elect a new leadership," he said.

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