1	U.S. COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS
2	UTAH ADVISORY COMMITTEE
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8	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
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10	CIVIL RIGHTS ISSUES IN UTAHAN OPEN FORUM
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15	June 29, 1983 7:00 p.m.
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20	Howard Johnson's Motor Lodge Lisa Room
21	122 W. South Temple Street Salt Lake City, Utah
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1	APPEARANCES
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3	MS. LINDA DUPONT JOHNSON Chairperson of the Utah Advisory Committee
4 5	MR. CAL ROLLINS Regional Manager
6	MR. LENORIS BUSH Director of UOIC
7 8	MR. LLOYD NELSON State Division of Aging
9	. MS. JOANNE BIRGE Regional Attorney
10	MS. SHERRY REPSCHER
11	Executive Director of the Committee for the Handicapped
12 13	MS. CHISUKU ISHIMATSU Oriental Representative
14	RABBI ERIC A. SILVER Jewish Representative
15 16	MR. LESLIE KELEN Coordinator
17	MR. WILFRED BOCAGE Advisor at Sperry Univac
18	MR. RALPH BARR
19	Department of Labor Representative
20	MS. BARBARA PEARCE Manager at Sperry Univac
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June 29, 1983 7:00 p.m.

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PROCEEDINGS

LINDA JOHNSON: What we have done in the past

is just sit and talk about the kinds of things that have been going on with us for the last couple of months.

There normally is a two- to three-month span between times

that we meet. Sometimes a few issues would come up, and

sometimes we try to zero in on one or two, which we

handle before the next meeting.

Just to give you a follow-up are some things that have come to us. At the time the State Legislature was about to pass a bill that would revoke the roving voter registrars that have been enacted along with the 1964 Civil Rights -- voting rights part -- a parcel of the voting rights amendment.

This committee, too, acts in such a fashion that we wrote both to the governor and State Legislature and made a public appeal to the media that we were opposed to such an act, and that action was not passed.

The floor is now open for discussion of civil rights issues that may need our attention.

In this big wide state, we don't have any problems?

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CAL ROLLINS: We might have each person talk about what they do. First of all, I'm curious to know what each person is involved in in terms of their jobs with so many issues, because I am personally involved in trying to do some minor research on things that are going on in the state, and possible issues. And I'd be curious to know what each of you is involved in and how I might zero in on some of what you're doing.

Oh, maybe if we could go around the room.

Lenoris, can you start that, because you've got a couple of things going.

LENORIS BUSH: I'm the Executive Director of UOIC. And as we say now, we run five training programs, mostly in the high tech area. We are responsible to train approximately 300 individuals and place them in jobs. This year we are minority contractor in this area, which is a grave concern to me with the piece of legislation which is known as the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act.

The new piece of legislation that is coming about is the new Job Training Partnership Act, which has came to the State of Utah and has several concerns, and has not been addressed by our committee, per se. And those are: We have been systematically eliminated from the State planning process and the distribution.

Those are -- Well, that's the biggest concern that I have. On the local level, we have had some input; but, on the State level, we haven't.

There is another concern that I have that's more grave than anything else, and considered to be the small business area. I am on the Regional Advisory Board for SBA, and have been for the last nine months. I have some real concerns with the regional person out of Denver, where the State of Utah no longer have direct loans for minorities, for the money has been frozen by the Regional Administrator, not by the department.

We are not getting our fair share of those dollars. And I have real, real strong concerns because Utah is leading the nation in writing 503 grants, which is one of the largest portions where a small business can come together. And, I actually understand a board is in the process to create public funds to help substantiate small businesses. We are not being utilized in that process at all.

I have some real problems with the minority set aside. A minority contractor is supposed to be the area's small business person for minorities, which is without cooperation. I have seen no results. It's no better than any other organization that was there

before they were.

The SBIC center seems not to even want to deal with the minority community. It is the oldest one west of the Mississippi, and that's the SBIC center. Everything else is east of the Mississippi that is dealing with that.

They do more than the Small Business Administration, and those files are not being shared with our community. The Small Business Administration gives them money, and they are supposed to give it out again.

But, for their part -- an integral part -- where they do have to put together pages, in all pages they have painted a much more valid picture than Small Business Administration.

Small Business turned out for a loan. And if you can get SBIC to recommend you for a loan, you will get the money above Small Business Administration recommendation not to give you the money.

The enterprise set-up, which is another center which is dealing with small business, which is funded by the Employment and Trade Administration under the previous Industrial Council which I'm a member of, there is no — there has been two minorities that have applied to that center. And no one has gotten any loans.

There has been some 65 new businesses that have started up, started up by the center in the last year and a half, where we have not been reciprocated. Personally, I sent five people there, and nothing has came out of that.

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I kind of lean more toward the business end, because I don't want to look at it as a civil rights problem. We want to be in that mode of development -- jobs and creating jobs -- that could be done. But we are not being utilized into that entrepreneur process.

being piggybacked on his 10 percent set aside. The Department of Transportation for the last six or seven months have been coming in here through their regional office saying there are a lot of moneys getting ready to come down. There is nothing in place, or there is no means for the minority business people in the state of Utah to know all the facts, or to find out how to bid on contracts, just to get simple information on how to obtain a small business loan on that.

The State has been receiving moneys all along, for many, many years. And traditionally, what has been said, either they don't have any money for the business people to give the money to, or we have it and they know about it, and they are not applying. I'm questioning

that. I can't speak for what has happened in the past, but since I've been on the board in 1980, I question all of that.

And, so, now, just this morning, in fact, I read Mr. Bush a letter from Congressman Mitchell, who was asked of the governor: Number one, I want to know if you are going to cooperate with us? If not, on what? And, number two: To tell me who to contact, who is your person in the state that is making -- touching bases with minority people and letting them know?

And my responsibility to the governor -- and, too, as we have nobody in the State government, we are talking about seven billion dollars coming down over the next four years. 10 percent of that money needs to go to minority business enterprisory representation.

And the governor, at this point, should get a staff.

The fees of the additive cost for that cost could come off that same 10 percent; and that we get a staff office; and that we have an advisory body made of actual minority business people, not somebody that the governor would randomly appoint, but somebody that actually had to start from scratch and is proprieting their own business, and who knows what is going on.

I'm waiting for a response from him on that. Should that response be negative, this body certainly

needs to be very vocal. Maybe we can look for some
people who are sitting around that like to actually
be on that committee, and be part and parcel of
organizing that staff. However, we need to make sure
that if the 10 percent set aside is not flowing as it
should in this state, then neither should that seven
billion dollars coming to this state.

I think it's our responsibility to monitor those kinds of things and make sure that we're getting a firm handle on it.

LINDA JOHNSON: The letter, itself, said that we are looking toward the State, beginning in September, over a period of four years, seven billion dollars coming into the state. I can make copies of that letter and supply and make available to all of you.

LLOYD NELSON: What period is that?

JOANNE BIRGE: At the time you are doing what you said to do, I think that we are able to maybe work on the problem in Denver, because it's the regional headquarters, and I have worked with SBA and minority contractors. Could I pursue that connection for a few minutes?

You said the SBA money is frozen by the Region Administrator. Did he state a reason why?

LENORIS BUSH: No. He indicated it was

frozen at the last meeting that we had at Litton in
Ogden. He indicated that since there had been some
people that had leaked the information, and there had
been some pressure put on him, moneys was not available
again for minorities, especially set aside for this on
the SBA to apply for it. But, as we encourage people
to apply to that fund, you have not seen anyone in
this state receive any.

JOANNE BIRGE: Have you talked to anyone in the Region 8 office? I was considering what names, what persons, you might have talked to there, besides the Regional Administrator, only.

LENORIS BUSH: That was the only one.

JOANNE BIRGE: Okay. And I've got Mr. Bush.
I don't know your first name, sir.

LENORIS BUSH: Lenoris.

JOANNE BIRGE: May I call on them and inquire?

LENORIS BUSH: You may.

JOANNE BIRGE: And use your name? I'll see what I can find out and what the story is. They have a section just for minority business, that is supposed to be an advocate and a help, and all of that. I will go see them and see what the story is.

Is there a phone number where I can call you? LENORIS BUSH: Yes, 486-4351, area code 801.

 I want to go a little farther and talk about the 88 contract, and those are dollars. And that was a letter that went to the department heads of all the military installations from the President, as well as from the Department of Army, indicating that all 88 contractors should increase from 10 percent to 25 percent to ensure that minorities get a piece of that pie.

I understand that there was a law passed; and I understand there was a proclamation. But the suggestion is not good enough for getting the doors opened.

We have been in contact with two military installations, which is out of Tooele -- the Army depot -- and Hill Air Force Base. And I went there with several minority contractors, some that I have gotten contracts with, already, such as management maintenance and services. I got a contract with them for Allstate and some of the other companies. But the military seems to not even want to talk to these companies.

Even for us to go to the County government to talk about doing some bond processes so that some of the smaller contractors could still apply for some of the funds, Salt Lake County hinted around that they probably would, but nothing ever happened on that.

So, you have to have a bond of mega amounts to get a \$5,000 contract. So, I can't see why you need

a \$25,000 bond for a \$5,000 contract. That's five times more than what you are asking for.

JOANNE BIRGE: In one of the places where

I worked on a problem similar, last year in North Dakota -and while I was working on this and calling on the

SBA and all the basic incidents to the problem -- it
was accomplished by the two Senators from North Dakota.

Do you have any hope of that here? Have you made any attempts to sit down with them and see if the Senators from Utah might --

LENORIS BUSH: I've worked with two of the Senators. That's Senator Garn and Senator Hatch. I don't know what you say, but it's the new federalism taking process. Everything is back to the states, and we have done the process as far as we can.

You've got to go to the governor in order to get whatever you're going to get. And this is what it seems to be when I talked to him. I first approached Mr. Garn with this, because he was the person that was in charge. Senator Hatch was the person that recommended me for this position on the SBA board, which I thought would be an ally. But, so far, it has not.

JOANNE BIRGE: The Job Training Partnership
Act, you said that minorities were unable to impact

1 State planning. Is that the State Department of Labor? Which State division? 2 LENORIS BUSH: That's the governor's office. 3 He hasn't handed it out to JOANNE BIRGE: any State department? 5 LENORIS BUSH: That piece of legislation 6 7 for the first nine months is given especially to implement that as they see fit. Now, in 1984, the 8 State Legislature is in behalf of that process. But at this time, it's up to the governor, alone. No, I 10 am not indicating the minority community has been 11 systematically eliminated. 12 LINDA JOHNSON: We have had discussions with 13 the governor in recent weeks. And right now, there is 14 a technical committee who screened and set up the 15 quidelines on how this was going to proceed with the 16 governor. And there was no one sitting on that 17 committee to represent the black community. For a while, 18 there was no one representing the CDO's, really. 19 JOANNE BIRGE: I thought there was a black 20 liaison office. 21 LINDA JOHNSON: That's me. 22 JOANNE BIRGE: It is not working, though? 23 LINDA JOHNSON: Well, the office isn't 24 working; that is, no one's letting us know what's going

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on. So, we have had conversations with him about that.

And he's going to expand that technical committee to include a black. But, the problem is we should have to get to him and say, "Look, we are being overlooked," in order to have that happen. We should be automatically included in that planning process, and we are trying to sensitize them to that.

So, I think at this level, we are going to get that resolved. But, it could have been a case where Lenoris would not have known about it and would not have known about this. There we would have been, and the decision was being made about it with no input.

JOANNE BIRGE: You are the best one to work on that, so Cal and I can sit down.

LINDA JOHNSON: Lou Dobbs is the person we have been working with on this on the Department of Transportation.

JOANNE BIRGE: He's in Denver.

LINDA JOHNSON: Up until this morning, when we got that letter from the Congressman, he's our only contact with the 10 percent set aside.

Are there any further discussions on this particular issue?

SHERRY REPSCHER: May I ask a question? Does the definition of minority business include disabled

people, or is there a separate category for loans in

Small Business Administration for disabled people who

might be interested in setting up a business?

LENORIS BUSH: There has never been a law processed, but I have said that I have had to get people who were included. But, I guess if they are handicapped, they should come under special exhibit of 503, which has to be approved by the office.

SHERRY REPSCHER: All right.

LINDA JOHNSON: There is some document we were going to pull that we were working on.

Lenoris, remember we talked about pulling a document to show how that was worded, if we could still get it then.

SHERRY REPSCHER: I'd like to know how that's derived.

CHIZUKU ISHIMATSU: That is a separate category. But there was an issue of handicapped coming along with minorities.

LINDA JOHNSON: That's something I don't know. We can pull that document and check that out.

LLOYD NELSON: If I understood you, you said

10 percent for the minorities is set aside? Is there
anything as far as can senior citizens make application?

LENORIS BUSH: Anyone can make application.

There is a special part of money for four categories of funding loans on SBA. You have the diary loan program; you have the minority set aside; then, you have the 503. And that's the newest piece. And you have a 1075. Those are the four parts of moneys that you can apply for under SBA.

Now, most of the moneys as of May of our last meeting, there have been some 30 million dollars in federal loans that have been given under the 503 program by the State of Utah, which leads all the rest of the states in the nation in making 503 loans.

And that goes to the State House Department to get these bonds passed.

I think that I was more concerned about -- and really, as I was appointed -- I went in specifically to work on a minority hearing, because we knew there was money. But every time we sent someone up to apply, we didn't make a minority loan anymore. And we said, "What happened to the money?" And because of my working with the national office and also working with Congressman Perry Nelson, the money was still there.

But, systematically, they had to say, "We are not going to do that anymore." And that was our regional director.

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LINDA JOHNSON: What we will do is pull that document, and maybe for each of you we will get a copy. We have you address and names. And then we will be happy to answer any questions.

In our different positions, like for me -and working with the State -- when I'm talking about these things to the governor, I have to speak on plans in bringing this before the board. I can also, after tonight, speak on behalf of the members of the Civil Rights Commission, which would involve everyone, so that will be better. But that's a real possibility.

LENORIS BUSH: I've one other one that I'd like to talk about, and it's related to education, and I'll be through.

And this is related to Title 1 -- it used to be Title 1, now it's Chapter 1, and that changed in 1981. I talked to you about that this morning, and you said someone would sit on that committee. There is some 9.2 million dollars that is coming into the state of Utah this year, which was 1.2 million dollars worth that came in the year before, which was 8 million dollars.

This money came in primarily for working with poor and impoverished youth. There have been several schools that have been identified throughout several of the school districts where these funds go
in. But, because it was changed from Title 1 to
Chapter 1, the regulations was loose. This money
was there, and they don't have to spend it for the
reason that it was created for. It could be spent on
anyone in the school system. That's the new regulations.

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One of the things that we come to find out is that there is no proposition at breakdown of why schools get the money and why schools don't get the money. Because we have a school at 25 percent of disadvantaged people -- You have got a school here with 65 percent, and they are not receiving any. And there is some big discrepancies there.

We took on this project as a project of the national set-up, but the citizens' committee to monitor the Title 1 funds here in the state of Utah -- Because most of those funds are being spent in the school system on computers, that has never had a chance.

And those students have been able to test those computers that they were bought for. And those computers are in all of our East Bench schools, and not in the schools that they are supposed to be in. We have some real problems with that. And I'm through.

LINDA JOHNSON: That's fine. I'd like to give you a note on the recent news publication from

"the Department of Labor out of Denver. You need to note or check the June 7th Federal Register on the moneys coming into the state of Utah for Veterans Employee Traning Service under the Jobs Bill. if you have a problem with any of that, you need to send written comments by July 7th. And I'll have the address here for you to check on, afterwards. attention to that. 

Each of Region 8 is getting quite a bit of money. Utah is getting \$50,000, which is not that much; but it would put some Vets to work, and why not?

Sherry, do you have some discussions for us?

I can just briefly explain what I do on behalf of the governor's committee on behalf of the employment of the handicapped. It's primarily a public awareness and public education committee dealing with the general public, and, specifically, employers to educate about disabilities and to promote the concept to promote a better attitude towards employment opportunities for people with disabilities; to look at the qualifications, rather than the disability of the handicapped.

We don't have an affirmative action that says some people have to be employed. So that's an issue that may be a disadvantage. And I'm not sure that

that's entirely the best way to go at this point.

But, it's been interesting to note that within the last three months, there has been a public service announcement running on Channel 4, giving information about our governor's committee in very general terms, saying: If you are interested in information about employment, or, if you have a disability and are looking for a job, to call. And it splashes our number on the television screen.

And it's been interesting to see about the response we have seen from people who are looking for jobs.

But it's happened long ago, and they are not interested in pursuing any kind of a legal pursuit of that discrimination.

But, basically, it's a matter of working with, and informing the general public, working on behalf of the disabled people to help them create a better self image, as well as being more educated to be more knowledgeable about their own rights; and working with the Legislature right now in an effort to create a piece of legislation -- or pass a piece of legislation -- dealing with all new construction with facilities that are being built with private funds that will be used for the public, indicating that they should be made accessible. And we are having some problems in that

area right now, as far as balking at the idea of putting regulations on private property issues.

The legal center for the handicapped is still in full force, although it's been primarily set up to serve the disabled population, rather than only the handicapped population. So there is some problems with the profession and advocacy area as far as broadening the definition of disabled that are being served there by the legal center.

Orin Hatch had a public hearing on the authorization of the rehab act. There were 11 local people who submitted general testimony, as well as additional written testimony, that will be put on the record. And I think it was commendable that Hatch does have a local advisory committee for the handicapped that meets on a monthly basis; that we are kept informed of issues with regard to funding or legislation that is impacting nationally or locally on disabled people. So, we feel, at least at this point, he's keeping us informed as to what is going on. We, too, are keeping him informed as to what the needs are.

LINDA JOHNSON: I just relinquished my chair seat to Barbara Toomer. So, she'll be keeping an evil eye on anything going on in this state.

We have known when we work with private

industry, such as Sperry Univac and Litton and so

forth, they have been really open to say, "Look, this

could be changed; and this could be altered." So,

you could just try it. It sounds really awesome at

first. But you might try having that person called

and going in and discuss.

SHERRY REPSCHER: There are several committees that we interface with through the governor's committee. One project that's just getting started is a grant. That's a project with industry that is just being established in the state, and funding is being channeled through the state from the Rehab Service Administration. And it is being channeled through the Northeast where that foundation, through the handicaps — and it will be a direct line with private industries as far as creating opportunities for disabled people.

LINDA JOHNSON: Do you have a discussion on the handicapped?

CHIZUKU ISHIMATSU: There is a special walk-in center for walk-ins, and they have employment counseling as well as other kinds of counsel services that are somewhat similar to the handicapped group.

JOANNE BIRGE: Do you have any estimates on population?

1 SHERRY REPSCHER: No, not at the present time. There's a State plan that's being put into its final 2 3 form right now, and I would be glad to share those 4 figures with you. 5 We use the national estimate, which could be 6 high or could be low as far as 1 in 10, as far as 7 the population. 8 LINDA JOHNSON: If you will make contact 9 with Barbara, 533-5386, she has all of that; and she does it on, like, a bimonthly basis. 10 11 SHERRY REPSCHER: She has statewide statistics that I didn't know she had available. 12 LINDA JOHNSON: She can break that down by 13 14 sex and age and ethnic background. 15 CHIZUKU ISHIMATSU: She gets those statistics 16 that say general zone and employment. 17 LINDA JOHNSON: I'm not sure if that is it, 18 because those figures weren't actual. Just double 19 check where she's getting them from. 20 Mr. Nelson, would you like to share with us? 21 LLOYD NELSON: I will try to do this in a 22 nutshell. If I do it in any other detail, you may have 23 some questions. Probably, the best summary we can give 24 you is two paragraphs here regarding our agency

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mission.

Program.

I work in the State Division of Aging, and we operate out of the Title 3 program. There is actually three major parts to this program: One is administration; another one is social services; and the third one has to do with the nutrition program. There is also some Title 4 money for training purposes. Title 5 is the Senior Committee Services Employment

. LINDA JOHNSON: Is that under the Department of Commerce, or which department is that coming from?

LLOYD NELSON: Pardon me. The Senior Committee
Services notes that it's under the Department of Labor,
and I think the administration on aging has been
interested in trying to take over the program. But,
I'm not sure what is happening on that right now.

We have somewhere around \$3- or \$2,000 coming into the state for the Division of Aging for the public agents. But, there is also the Forest Service, has money coming in for that program, as has Green Thumb. So, there's three sponsors for the Senior Committee Service Employment Program in the state right now. Our major purpose, really, is to develop and fund these; coordinate a service and delivery system for the adult and elderly population.

When we look at the elderly, we are looking

1 at 60 and over adults. And the Division of Aging has 2 3 5 7 8 9 10

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basic responsibility for the administration of the Older Americans Act programs for the elderly, as well as the alternative programs; and after the last legislature, for adult services. We have a State staff up there that provides the technical assistance. do monitoring, evaluating, some research, planning, advocacy advisement, and training program development services. So, there is a variety kind of services provided by the State Division of Aging.

The moneys we get, as a rule, are passed through to the area agencies on aging, and they take the responsibility for contracting, or, on the waiver basis, they can provide direct services. And that's the way most of the programs are handled.

I might just give you a little idea here in terms of the contracts. The area agencies provide outreach advocacy, public education in nutrition, employment, legal alternatives, too, and other social service programs. When we took over the adult service program, which is Title 20 Block Grant Program, the division contracts through the Federal services offices of the community -- and sometimes private providers or public providers -- to render to the seniors care, day care, money, protective services,

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some transportation, and other social services.

And that, essentially, is the kind of things that goes on in the Division of Aging. I think our state has approximately 150 out of 400 people over 60 years of age. We are only serving, actually, a small portion of those. Some are able to meet their own needs, and take care of themselves. We have 12 area agencies in the state, and we have about 95 senior citizens centers spread throughout the state. And that also includes nutrition sites. And the nutrition program: That's congregate meals at the sites, or home delivered meals for individuals who can't come into the sites to get the service.

There is also the multiplicity of programs that go on in the senior centers to help meet the needs of the seniors and take care of them. Transportation is available, but transportation is a problem, end of the rural areas.

I guess another area that seems to be of some concern -- and, I think, for a lot of you sitting around this table -- that's employment of the seniors.

I think you know that the senior population is growing by leaps and bounds. It's been 10.3 percent for the state of Utah right now of the population.

Utah may be a little different, because we seem to be

able to have so many kids and old people. But, nationally, it's about 10.3. And, by the turn of the century, or by the time the war babies from World War II get up there, it's going to be almost 20 percent old people.

One of the obvious things that's going to happen is there aren't going to be enough workers to take care of the old folks. I see an interesting trend. If you happen to be one of the war babies, you'll be one of the millions. If the country can find some new ways to fund, and if not, the necessary programs won't meet the needs of the people.

I think that a lot of our old folks, once they retire, want to stay retired. It's really hard to get them up and going again. There are some that will want to work, but not too many. Really, when it comes down to it, most are pretty happy with their retirement. But work is going to be an essential element, in my opinion. That's why I was interested in your program over here that is going to happen to the old folks.

I think you know social security is struggling to keep things going. And my hope is that it will be there long enough to take care of you. I don't know about the war babies; they are going to have some trouble, or the states are going to be in trouble

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meeting the needs of our old people as time goes on.

Any questions on that?

LENORIS BUSH: You know, we have been battling in my community with Salt Lake County Divison of Aging for a long time, and why is a business proposition with the senior citizen? Why do we have to take all our people to the church and care for them, to get some food for them, or else they don't get fed, in these programs? I got some real questions.

CHIZUKU ISHIMATSU: I can answer that on the County Division of Aging. One of the things we found is that minorities didn't go to the senior citizen centers as a whole. For instance, a Hispanic -- We started with a group and found that the language was a handicap, and also the ethnic food. And so, we did a three-year study, funded from whatever title comes from the State, and we did a thing.

And at that time, -- that's been 10 years ago -we found that the blacks did their own surveys, the
Asian-Americans, specifically, and Japanese and Chinese
did their own surveys, as did the Mexicans. And they
came back with the thought that they would like at least
a once-a-week luncheon where they could meet together.
And from there, it's been continuing on. But at the
time, there was nothing that serviced the minorities.

LLOYD NELSON: I think just another thought
along that line. You know, it's perplexing to me, too,
in terms of this kind of problem because one of the
focuses of the Division of Aging is people of the
greatest economic and social need.

Now, when you look at the social aspect, you know that can cover any senior citizen out there. And usually the people that take advantage of the centers are the people that have the experience of living, you know, putting things together, and making things happen. And they are able to take advantage of the programs that are available to them.

I look at those people in the poverty area -whether they are white or black, or Chicano or whatever -with a similar kind of problem. I think it's very hard
to mix even the white person that's in a poverty area
with a middle income person that goes to the centers.
It just doesn't work; it doesn't happen. I think that,
I'm not sure if you cut out one group, you cut out
another, even if you stay with your white population.

Many of the leadership for the senior programs in the state really come from that group of people. They go to the political system, go to the County governments, and things happen. So, I think they know a lot about fund raising; they know a lot about

how to organize; and they do that. Consequently, they can very often take an old depot, a train depot, to get the resources to pick it up, set it down, and finish it off on the inside; and you have a senior citizen center.

Probably a key example was down in Kanab.

They wanted a senior center down there. They came to us, and we said, "We don't have anything to give you."

Somebody offered a building -- it happened to be a rectangular thing -- and they said, "You can have that." It was outside of town by itself. They looked at it.

And then the commissioners said, "Like, you must be nuts." But they went over and looked at it.

And then they knocked out a couple of walls. And pretty soon they had a couple of doors and windows. The resources were good enough.

When they had that fire down there in

Las Vegas -- What was the name of the place? I want
to call it the Orpheum, the MGM -- it had a lot of
carpet. They knew how to go down, and had access to
the carpet for a dollar a yard. They had gotten some
of the most plush carpet you have ever seen. They got
a grant for \$50,000 to put a solar heat system on the
roof, from an experiment. And, basically, it's one

of the nicest centers in the state. When you go down there, you should go inside the center to see what that is.

But they knew what to do and how to do it.

And they found ways to tap, to come up with the dollars to do it. And I think there is a psychology behind that.

Now, I think in terms of the Salt Lake area agency on aging, they have an outreach staff to find out: What can we do to help you; how can we get you involved? And some of the reports that come back have been that they haven't been able to make the indentations that they wanted to make, in terms of getting the people active and involved.

But, I understand what they are doing today is, rather than the outreach people from the area agencies doing the job, they are going to your community leaders, like your Baptist church. And they are able to do something to get the people motivated and trained to take part in the program. Even if it's down there at the church, and not in some of these centers, the people are welcome to go to the centers. The centers are open and available to them. If they call up, the van will come out and take them. But, it's that wall that everybody seems to build around

themselves that keeps people from going and attending; and you do find some that do.

And Roy, for example -- I think you know

Velma. She was a key community leader up there -
Velma got a senior center up there. I haven't seen

it, but I think it's open. She does a tremendous job.

RABBI ERIC SILVER: I think I see a circular problem here. That's the people you are describing down in Kanab have in some way or another, through the years, been involved with the system. And they were clever in utilizing it to their own advantage.

If I'm hearing things correctly, the people Mr. Bush describes have never been part of the system. So, they lack the savy about how to go out and make the system work for them.

It's very easy for us to sit here and say,
"If you folks will go and do, you can solve the
problem." They have never been a part of this system
or seen it work for themselves.

CHIZUKU ISHIMATSU: They became a part of the system, but they chose it; at that time, 10 years ago; to go through the churches. And they used the churches as a means.

And the Hispanic community, they expanded to the Northwest Center, but they essentially started

with Saint Patrick's Church. But, that was 10 years ago. And I don't think they ever changed that kind of concept.

LINDA JOHNSON: What can we do at this point to resolve the problem, to bring those people in and teach them how to use the system to help themselves?

Leslie, you've been working with elderly minorities. Shed some light on this.

No, no. I can't do that. I can tell you what I've seen, but I really don't have any answer.

I've been interviewing a project director for an oral history project. He interviews ethnics and elderly people in this state, largely in the greater Salt Lake area. And he interviewed Piute, Ute, Jewish, Greek, and the black communities over last year. And the project is not basically, you know, aimed at ferreting out or bringing only civil rights issues. It is live histories. And, so, as a result, we get a whole gamut of information, a whole range of what happened to these people over their life times.

The kind of things we are looking at -- what I'm hoping his project is going to bring out -- is a kind of community profile about what has happened to our communities, themselves. We know what has happened

all the time. Information that I do have so far, from the demographics that we have, has been doing backup.

What you are saying in the black community, they are being systematically kept out of the business end in Salt Lake, simply because they have been kept in menial work for a long time. One of the interesting things is that young black people from the '40's, '50's, and '60's, many of them who received college training left the state because they couldn't find work here.

As far as I know it's an interesting thing, the senior citizens. I was down on the Ute reservation, and there is a senior center down there. And they also bus the elderly to eat at the motel, which is owned by the tribe, a business called Bottle Hollow. And the people get bussed in every day during lunch.

This, in part, corroborates what you are saying. There seems to be a tension at work here, because there's a great need to maintain cultural identity and to remain together and enforce each other in that sense.

At the same time, there is a need upon the part of the individuals who see civil rights only in terms of integration. We see the final results of that. The kind of study we're doing -- and the fact that minority communities, ethnic and minority

communities, maintain contacts with ancestral rights -- say that civil rights and integration is a lot more complicated emotionally than we think.

That's not an answer for you, unfortunately.

CHIZUKU ISHIMATSU: But, the elderly, there

are a lot of races. For instance, a black person or

Asian, if they should come into a nursing home, they

are called Japs or whatever the case is. And so, you

know, really, you do have a kind of problem with that

if you are talking about integration. I think you

find that more throughout the center than they do

in homogenous groups.

about the senior center is a white woman working with them, who always sits apart from the Indian older women of the same age. She never eats with them.

All the Indian women sit here. And she's been down there all her life, since the age of 18 or 19, since she got married.

And she has put together by herself, of her own volition, a dictionary of Ute terminology. And the Utes are just putting together their own now.

The ramifications of that are really telling.

JOANNE BIRGE: Whose choice is it? I don't
understand.

think it's the choice of both. There is a sort of -
think it's the choice of both. There is a sort of -
They keep each other apart. Obviously, the woman

isn't accepted into the Indian main fold, in part

because she doesn't speak the language fluently.

Most of the older people speak Ute and haven't learned

English. It is, as the Rabbi pointed out, a circularness

that exists.

But this problem of individualness makes it more complicated on people identifying with their own and being more comfortable. So, I don't know where that puts you.

LLOYD NELSON: It is a major problem.

LINDA JOHNSON: Would you, Lenoris, be willing to check, make a random check of some of those people and ask if they know what services are available, and if they chose not to use it? And, if they don't, why? And could I get some feedback on it? From that, maybe that would be a starting point.

If it's their choice, then, we can work on that area. If it's not their choice, we can certainly do something on that.

LENORIS BUSH: We do do physical examinations on some of the older workers, and they come to us.

They expand our survey, and we counsel them. And that

has been the responsibility of Mrs. Ishimatsu. She has been running our clinic.

LLOYD NELSON: I have a paper that was written by Andrew Gallegos, talking about the things and groups and points we are talking about here. It followed right down the line in terms of kinship and relationships they have with one another around culture at the center.

LINDA JOHNSON: And that's a very real problem. Some blacks, they just won't eat anything that's not ethnic food. Of course, when you are hungry, you'll eat anything. But, if we could zero in on the guys, maybe, Lenoris, we could start solving the problems.

CHIZUKU ISHIMATSU: If you check to see,
do they only go to that center, or do they go to more
centers? Because, we have a few in Salt Lake County
that make a little trek. Once they go on Monday here;
and Tuesday, they go here; and Wednesday, they go there.
So, they don't always stay with one little center.

LENORIS BUSH: This is a little group of ladies -- There's about 25 of them, and they are at Calvary Baptist Church every day at lunch. You can sit down and talk to them. And one thing that came to the forefront with me -- and that is with all these senior citizens -- we are having to pay for

things twice, because these are originally areas -In the first place, they didn't give us loans
deliberately because they red-lined the area, and the
property went down. Then they condemned the property
and put in these community centers, and then charge
an arm and leg to stay there.

LESLIE KELEN: Which property did they condemn?

LENORIS BUSH: The area of Sumner School,

the area that's close to the railroad tracks which

is known basically as minority areas of town, West

Second South.

CHIZUKU ISHIMATSU: The old Jap town, the night town, all this.

LENORIS BUSH: They are coming back on those people here, those things, because once they owned the business, They had property there.

When I came here in 1966, there were more blacks than there are now. See, those are the things that I think you ought to deal more with than racial kinds of things and racial connotation.

That is who it is being taken from in the first place, and that's where they feel they are being ripped off.

JOANNE BIRGE: I have a question. While other persons are trying to understand what's going

on, what does the State do to cope with the reality of it? Do you have an advisory panel?

LLOYD NELSON: Well, we have an advisory board; we had a State board. Every local agency has an advisory counsel, also.

JOANNE BIRGE: What is minority participation in that?

LLOYD NELSON: I don't know if I could tell
you if we have foreigners on any of the boards. We do
have it on the State board. We have a Chicano; we do
have a black person; and then representation from across
the state from each one of the area agencies. Again,
when you get outside of the Wasatch Front area, the
minority population is very low, down to maybe .3 percent,
somewhere like that, in the total population of 60 plus.
So, we don't have a lot of representation coming in
from the rural areas of minority background, whoever
happens to be chairman of the local minority council.

JOANNE BIRGE: There is nothing really administratively specific as to, you know, how do you cope with this. I think the area agency on aging here in Salt Lake is working very hard to try to work with the leadership of the black community, the Chicano community, and -- What do I want to call them? The informal leadership -- to see what they can do to get

those people to give us some assistance to make some inroads into the problem. I think Salt Lake County, particularly, is working very hard on it.

LESLIE KELEN: I was just going to add:

Through interviews, I think this has been a particularly difficult area to voice grievances, at least what I can sense.

JOANNE BIRGE: Because you don't know who to go to?

whether to exactly describe it as a long-standing desire not to look at the problems. There's a difficulty in this area in terms of acknowledging the difficulty of people and the pain in living here. I think it, you know, stems in part from not wanting to see it. It's one of the things that prompted this project to come about because I felt, and others felt, it was imperative to try to give voice to things. But, I felt that it was a problem. And many people, of course, feel that it is. It's hard to give it voice and hard for it to really impact.

JOANNE BIRGE: So, as far as what is the State doing to address the reality of it, you don't see anything concrete?

LESLIE KELEN: Well, I see, you know, advisory

1 committees and boards. But, I see as well a kind of invisibility. I see these communities remaining 2 invisible, not really getting and having -- not really 3 getting the kind of representation and kind of voicing of problems. Maybe we should have this on TV or something.

LLOYD NELSON: The medical assistance, the State does play in some situations where we do have some problems where there have been some discrimination, or the staff has gone to the centers to work with the centers and people to iron out difficulties, with threats if necessary, to pull the money out.

JOANNE BIRGE: Just one more question. your interviews, have you attempted to determine the involvement that the voting -- I mean, is that a segment of the community that votes, 50 percent like most of us, or more than that, or not?

LESLIE KELEN: I can't answer that. it seems to me, there is always in the back of the minds of people that feel persecuted, the sense of what is going to happen if I say something. There is a known factor. I just don't think it is an area where civil rights has had a great deal of power, generally. I mean, that's my observation.

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LENORIS BUSH: I have one observation, and

that is: Instead of putting people on an advisory position, put them into a decision making policy position.

And I think you can eliminate many of the problems you have with the senior citizens, if you put somebody else in there that's not a senior citizen that is talking for senior citizens. But, they never see the senior citizens; they are talking for themselves.

LINDA JOHNSON: You make mention of making media attention. The goings on of our meeting are released to the news media, and that's why we have a reporter here. Hopefully, that will do some good.

Maybe we can do a follow-up and make a statement from the body a week or two after that, at least give us some attention.

LESLIE KELEN: Yes.

LINDA JOHNSON: Any other discussions on aging?

Oh, Rabbi, do you have some issues? What I've heard, they sound rather small. By the way, what we are going to do is: Since we don't have a full board, we need a full board to act, so we'll continue our discussions for the moment.

RABBI ERIC SILVER: Most of the areas that

I have to cover would be in the area of frustrations

that are not quite on the same level as people who are trying to eat. Nonetheless, there are a number of frustrations that are perceived by the Jewish community. One of these, of course, is in the political area.

Jews, as a whole, tend to be politically aware, politically active. You don't find that many Jews in public office in Utah. And that, I think, is a statement of that problem.

The other thing is who has to do with encounters in the schools, and a number of other areas. I have -- I would say I have at least two or three times a week, school children in my office: Harassment in the public schools; in organizations like Boy Scouts; and so forth. These run more into the area of annoyances, and discriminations, exclusion from school activities.

Like, rather interestingly, a couple of weeks ago while participating in a forum of the Hinkley Institute at the University, I brought this up. And one of the other speakers said, "You should understand that Utah was colonized by a specific religious group and constitute a majority of the voters in the state. And, therefore, they elect representatives to the State Legislature. And if

anyone there" ---

LINDA JOHNSON: Rabbi, on one issue about public schools for the State, if you will give me, I'll just go to the governor's office, and the whole thing, I can handle that for you. We are facing the same problem with blacks. We have one black. All you have to do is get your people politically active to the point where they are being heard from every time elections are rolled around.

Financially, you are going to have to build some clout so that people will sit up and listen to you when you talk. But it's going to take more of the grumblings in the political arenas. They're going to have to show up at political activities and let the people see that they are there and that they are interested. And just begin an all-out effort of kind of a campaign in your own community. That's basically what we are doing. Mr. Bocage is who will be our next candidate that will be running.

RABBI ERIC SILVER: I think demography,

population, and density in any one particular area

has a great deal to do with it. The Jewish community

in Utah is diffused geographically, and, therefore,

it would not be possible to muster a sufficient

number of votes in any given area to achieve it, whereas

there are a number of areas in which the demography works in favor of the black community. And it then becomes possible to elect black representatives.

try.

that are already in place, the legislators, governors, mayors, all those kinds of people? Have you gone into the office, sat down and said, "Look, we have not been able to get that voice here, but we want--"

RABBI ERIC SILVER: The voice exists, Linda, in ways that sort of makes us a gray eminence in the state. For example, I get called rather frequently at various political levels. And other Jewish community leaders will get calls because Jews are able to exercise a certain amount of influence in the community.

LINDA JOHNSON: Are you not able to use -I'm questioning you because I'm not sure I know what
the situation is. Are you not able to use those
moments to say, "While we are talking, can we not
discuss this and our dissatisfaction with that?"

RABBI ERIC SILVER: It's certainly worth a

LINDA JOHNSON: Just from my own experience,
I think we have to use every moment that we get, and

25 use it for our own purposes as well. Not only make

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times that we go to them, but every time they come to us, you know, make sure we are getting something out of it, too. At least, we have gotten our point across. It's kind of a constant being on guard thing, you know.

I don't know. Does anybody else have any discussions?

JOANNE BIRGE: Do you have a political action committee?

RABBI ERIC SILVER: As a pact, per se? JOANNE BIRGE: Yes, uh-huh. I was thinking of a kind of situation where the Chamber of Commerce forms a pact over here on their right side and says, "We have \$10,000. We'll interview the candidates for this office, and we'll select one that we might want to give the whole \$10,000."

RABBI ERIC SILVER: We do not have a political action committee in that sense. We have the United Jewish Council which is sort of a united way for Jewish activities in Utah. Elsewhere, interestingly enough, during the last election, we did invite the two candidates for Congress in the district to speak at the synagogue. One showed up, and what she had to say was greatly appreciated. The other candidate declined to attend and to respond to the invitation.

I will not mention names.

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 LESLIE KELEN: There is some precedent to going into the schools. One of the lawyers in the community, a Jewish community, with the former Rabbi — two Rabbis ago — went into the school system and did some teaching about some of the harassment you are talking about.

RABBI ERIC SILVER: Sure. It only works as long as you are actually there watchdogging the thing. As soon as you turn around and go out the door, things immediately revert to the status quo entity.

LINDA JOHNSON: Well, if you can get involved,
I think we can be a little bit more effective. If you
find me a black Jew, I can really be effective. We'll
see what we can do on that level.

My fear is that the calls you get are these token kind of calls we get a lot of the time. "Istouched base with that Jew, so, we are okay." And that's how they think a lot of times.

At some point, they have got to know: If you want me for these kinds of purposes, then I want the authority and strength behind all of that as well.

I don't know, because we're kind of in the same boat, too, you know.

JOANNE BIRGE: But I think, also, if you can't

pool your votes because of your geographical locations, you can pool your money.

RABBI ERIC SILVER: That certainly gets done. The interesting thing is that Senator Hatch, for example, regularly calls on leaders of the Jewish community in Utah. And some of it may have to do with the financial contributions that these people are capable of making, although we don't have that many wealthy Jews in Utah.

This Jewish community is relatively of moderate means. And most of them tend to be a far more liberal bent than he would represent. Nonetheless, I think he recognizes that 2,000 voters can be a swing vote in some instances. I believe he's interested in cultivating that, and that's what I read into his regular contacts.

that -- Did you talk to Terry at all? He'd be a good person to talk to about that. I really think so.

We are going to be winding down. I need to hear from Mr. Bocage and then from Ralph Barr.

WILFRED BOCAGE: My full time job is employee relationship at Sperry Univac at Salt Lake. I'm involved with the NAACP. I'm the vice president and on the governor's advisory council. I chair the economic development part of the council.

One of my major issues right now is economic development concerned with our employment from the youth standpoint up into our young adults. the things that we are looking at is the kind of educational curriculum that some of our minority students are getting in the schools. And we found out when they come out of school, they have no marketable skills to go into the kind of industry that is going to be prevalent here in Salt Lake City, and 

that is the high tech industry.

We are trying, at this time, to recommend some of our own programs, because we don't see the programs in place right now doing anything for our minority youth. They're still coming out of school not able to get into what we classify as inter-level positions in high tech industry.

Some of the things that we are doing is that a few of the large companies in the area in conjunction with the NAACP, and the black scholarship council, and the black advisory council, to generating some scholarships and generating some commitments from our junior colleges and two-year colleges, and set aside a certain amount of scholarships per year. Or, give us the opportunity to go into the schools and identify the students in 8th, 9th, and 10th grade, and kind of

just follow the students and make sure that the
equipment they are getting will enable them to pursue,
if they want to, to pursue into the high tech area,
or, at least, come out of high school with the basic
requirements of high tech industry. And that's, you
know, mathematics, reading, and those particular
skills.

We find that kids are coming out without those kinds of skills.

One of the things that bothers us quite a bit, as Lenoris touched on, is usually there are a lot of schools in the area here that have computer training. But the students, we feel, who should be made available to those computers, are not being given the opportunity because of the scores, the combined-score factor, that they are using to admit these students into these programs.

And with everything from media on down to just neighbors talking, it is kind of really ironic to think that we don't know that the high tech business is going to be the thing of the future. Every household, every person that's in the median income right now, either have computers or will be acquiring computers. It's a fact. And with these being high tech industry, it's going to be a way of

life.

And if these youngsters are not given opportunity to be involved in that level of technology, you know, we are going to have a continuance of our high unemployment among our minority youth and our young minority adults.

So, one of our grave concerns is that we don't see a lot of activities going on within the school districts -- and I would say all of the school districts in Salt Lake City, especially -- when we see high dropout from minority students. We see a lot of counselors that are not really advising our minority students what the true world is all about. They kind of put them in and put them out.

And from a standpoint of industry, whatever the school gives us, we have to work with. We, from the industrial standpoint, would like to hire all kids, especially minorities if they have the ability to do the job. And that's the thing we have to emphasize.

Companies are not in the business of training. That should be done from the schools, because that's what we pay taxes for, making sure those kids are trained to go out and pursue a higher education or go out into the job market. That's not happening.

So, you can't really go back to the companies and say,

"Train students." We should have some things where the companies say, "We have openings, requisitions for a particular skill." We should have a base, or at least a pool to be able to pool from. Right now, we don't have that.

And if things proceed on the way that they are, it's going to get to the point that, first of all, we are going to have to go out of the state to get technical competent people. And in the mean time, our own minority youth are going to be unemployed. So, it's a very serious problem.

And the only way we see trying to do that is do it ourselves. And, unfortunately, of course, without a small population in the state, and some of us involved in so many different areas, we cannot put them on in the time that we would like to put into it to show that these programs are implemented:

So, from a civil rights commission standpoint, we want that to be known to the commission.

CAL ROLLINS: We got a letter two months ago from your people in asking for help in locating minority persons for jobs. What was that all about?

WILFRED BOCAGE: Every year we try. For example, this year, we have a coop entire program that we try to fill some of our minority slots. The

problem that they have -- and go back again to -- do we have the technical people here in the state, competent to go into those jobs. We don't; so what we have to do is go to other minority organizations. Organizations say we don't.

Do you have a means, or do you have some suggestions on what kind of agency we should be pursuing to get these students in?

This year -- and I don't want to mention no company, because I'm not affiliated with a company -- but I will say a company has brought in this year minority students in the engineering field outside of the state of Utah, because we really don't have them here in the state.

One of the reasons why we did that is because we felt -- the company did -- that if these students were made available physically to the students here in the area, just to be around them, to talk to them, maybe we would generate enough interest. That's one area, generate enough interest for other students to pursue the engineering field.

And if you look at the statistics right now in the schools, we have very few minorities pursuing technical degrees, engineering, computer science, which are two major scientific occupations that are

going to be needed in the state. So we are trying to do two things: To bring a minority student in with the probability of retaining that student; and also as a model figure where we could profile that student to our minority students in this area and see if we can encourage not only the student we want to pursue the field; and, also in conjunction with the schools, to indicate to the counselors they should be pushing the reality of saying, "Don't just take anything. You need to take something that is going to make you a living." And so far that's been working.

Our company sent out lawyers and saying,

"What kinds of suggestions can you give us, or give

them to make sure a program like this would be working."

Right now that program is running pretty good. Hopefully,

in the coming years, that will be expanded -- That's

been the only thing we see right now is to be able to

get minorities into the state, because, right now, we

don't have them in the schools.

To be able to fill those jobs, we have to identify minority students within the state that's taking those particular fields, or taking those particular degrees, that don't exist right now. There are very few, so the only other alternative is to go into students outside of the state to get those students to come in,

hopefully stay and kind of do what we are doing; that is, stay here, go out to the schools, and try to encourage and inform and communicate with the minority students exactly what kind of field they should pursue.

of public relations on the part of private companies, on the part of each of our representative constituencies, and giving it any attention and all attention that we can. That's something we can handle easily. It's going to take doing it, and doing it over a period of time.

I know the people I deal with. As a result of that,
I tell them every chance I get at the colleges and so forth, "Main stream your people into the high tech field," and so forth, you know. There's a solution there.

LENORIS BUSH: That's one of the things
I was saying. Most of your career labs that people
go to, they explore careers. If you are of a minority
descent, if you are of any race, you are just about
pigeonholed into social service fields. It's like
when I walk to the University, which all my training
was in agriculture and biology, I was told to go into
the people business. Not so. That's why I finally
wound up in the people business. And I went to BYU
and they said, "Go into the people business."

I don't want to go into the people business I want to deal with something else. this time. think those are the kind of things making sure that those people there -- that is, the ones that are advising the kids, to make sure they are given the message that these are growth industries, these are industries that have futures. And maybe we can do something a little bit more.

JOANNE BIRGE: I had a couple of questions of Wilfred.

You seem to be talking about a company who cares, that's spent a lot of time and money to see that they get some persons from the minority community. I'm wondering two things: One, what is your sense of how many corporations in Utah do care; and, two, where does that caring come from? Is that OFCC pressure? Is that the company, itself?

LINDA JOHNSON: Can I answer the second part, because it's hard for you to talk about it yourself.

I think this particular company in this state, Sperry Univac, has taken extra pains to do whatever they could for groups. If they do go and point out to them where they are deficient, they are just as happy to talk to you. But in this case,

this company has out that information and came to us and said, "What can we do?"

WILFRED BOCAGE: The first part, no, I don't see a lot of other companies doing that. I think if you see it, if somebody's reporting you to OFCC, you may see some inquiries. And after everything is over, it kind of just goes away. I just don't see a lot of companies that -- it has to be an internal thing. It has to be a commitment internally from the highest management down to the lowest supervisor to say, "We want to do the right thing."

And, I think, if that's not done within the company, you know, you could come up with so much outside pressure, you know. You could see anything you want to see and say, "I want to see it." And, as the Rabbi said, "What happens when you leave?"

JOANNE BIRGE: So, you don't see OFCCP in the state. The major determinative is one determiner,

WILFRED BOCAGE: I think OFCCP is only looking at open companies over a period of time. They can't scrutinize every company on a weekly basis. They can only audit so many companies and go in so many companies per year. But, I think if a company feeling is that we want to do the right thing and fulfill, you know,

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one way or the other.

our requirements so far as equal opportunity, equal jobs, I think it's going to have to be internally.

It's going to be a commitment from inside the company more than, say, if OFCCP -- they can't put pressure again. When OFCCP leaves, who monitors the company?

Who monitors whether those people are still going to be in place a year from now? And when they get in, do they stay there, or do they move like anything else has? That's the only thing I can tell you.

LINDA JOHNSON: Would you like to comment on that?

RALPH BARR: I would agree 100 percent with what Mr. Bocage says; that it really takes commitment with the company. You take away OFCCP -- like any other agency that pursue matters like this -- you only have so many resources, and so this is a situation where you can't be with the same company all the time. So, if somehow that doesn't come to our attention, that this company is doing something other than what they had agreed to, we would never know until the next time we went back, which could be two years.

JOANNE BIRGE: I guess what I'm wondering, maybe you can't really know, is it seems to me that companies that are doing it because it's the right thing to do would do it if OFCCP existed or didn't

exist. I guess that's what I'm trying to measure, the importance of your influence.

LESLIE KELEN: I wouldn't guess that would be true because OFCC would have come out of the whole civil rights movement. And unless the movement had created the kinds of agencies which increased the awareness of people, people just would not have been led into the high risk area. There would have to be something leading that, too.

I think it's important to have the agencies.

I don't think just good will is everything.

JOANNE BIRGE: So, at least, they can create awareness.

LESLIE KELEN: I think that's really vital.

LINDA JOHNSON: Because -- and if we relied on good intent, we would have the one company in the whole state that would really be up to par.

LESLIE KELEN: It's just not enough. I think the other, from personal experience also, I think there is probably a great deal of conservativeness in terms of state agencies who are overlooking discrimination issues. From a talk that I had with the Director of the State Industrial Commission, he said that cases wherein which they find a company is at fault, and if they push that through to the next level, if the

companies object and push it through to the next level, he said that about 95 percent of the cases are overturned against them. So, there doesn't seem to be much higher-up backing. I mean, I don't know if this is something you can corroborate.

LINDA JOHNSON: That's true.

LESLIE KELEN: That's about a year and a half,

I learned that information. That is an appalling kind

of thing.

LINDA JOHNSON: I want to give Barbara Pearce a second opinion on that question.

BARBARA PEARCE: Regarding the OFCC pressure,
I can only speak for one company. I have experience
with one company. I do agree that the commitment has
to be from the top. There is no way to work otherwise.

If you don't have the commitment from the top and
people who are really paying attention, and if the
EEO job in any organization is just going to be a
token job, to say, "We have got one. And here is our
number, and our numbers all fall in the entry level,"
it's important for them to be committed to promoting
and to create clear paths, and upward mobility for
females and minorities and other protected classes,
as well as everyone in the plant.

And we do have at our company a very dedicated,

you know -- Every month I will have a director, or I will have a vice president of the company coming over and saying, "Let me take a look. Where are the goals and time tables? Are we meeting them?" So it's important. I can only talk for that company.

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I don't think it's the OFCC pressure. Here in Salt Lake City for a good number of years, we would go through our compliance reviews, but we didn't get a lot of pressure from OFCCP. But we did it anyway. So, at one point in time, it was reorganized, and OFCCP came in and had more teeth in their program and scrutinized the work a lot better. We are there without having to scramble to get people to come in.

LENORIS BUSH: I had to speak for 26 businesses represented on my industrial advisory council and from the chamber labor task force of the 17 major companies that moved into the area in the last two years.

We talked extensively around this same issue here. And that was the issue when American Express came in, leaving New York City, and leaving a work force that was one-third black and one-third Hispanic and one-third Anglo, and coming to an area such as Salt Lake City, Utah. Why you have many less numbers in terms of those in minority population, what would be their posture?

Now, at the time they shifted and said, "We have not decided upon Salt Lake City; we have decided on Salt Lake and Little Rock, Arkansas are the two states we have in mind." We picked up the daily newspaper and it said, headlines: American Express have chosen Salt Lake City as their facility.

To me, many of the businesses move here to get rid of some stigma that has been created around a minority issue and the whole issue of affirmative action and equal opportunity. I do not see any teeth in OFCCP, EEOC, the State anti-discrimination. There is no teeth in terms of the authority on litigation, in terms — in favor of our large number of people.

Now, we met in John's office about two weeks ago with the head of the EEOC Commission officer in Phoenix, Arizona: myself; Rabbi Davis; and a couple of people from the Phoenix Institute. It seems they were drumming up business. They had 95 cases that had been filed in the whole state of Utah with EEOC. Two, only, came out of the Salt Lake area. They were saying, "Well, we can pursue this, but, really, we don't have any" — and at that time EEOC said, "We don't take care of cases based on merit of whether there was wrongdoing or not, or whether we feel we have the legal ground to win the case." And that tends to turn me off.

LINDA JOHNSON: What he's saying is that new companies are coming in to get around affirmative action like the last new company that moved in here.

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When I called to say, "Let me know what your recruiting procedures are so I can get people in and let them know," a secretary's response to me was, "We were told that we didn't have to worry about affirmative action here."

RABBI ERIC SILVER: Come to Utah.

LINDA JOHNSON: That's because I had an executive committee of my board, and his whole attitude was the same thing. It's like he didn't say it as blatantly as they did. But he was saying to us in no uncertain terms that they were told, "We didn't have to be bothered with that here."

SHERRY REPSCHER: I can share an example, too, of going out to the same new company and having a grand tour of it, to show how architecturally acceptable it was. They brought one man in a wheelchair, who was also Hispanic, for us to meet to show that they were employing handicapped people at this company. I didn't see anyone else with obvious disabilities.

I thought that was interesting. I felt like it was show-and-tell. "We do have our token," is what I actually felt, because I asked what their policy on

other applications and their opportunity might be in referring some people -- or training program that might be available.

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We were told that they had thousands of applications on file, and they wouldn't be taking any other applications.

RALPH BARR: May I ask a question? Do you think that the reason why these companies -- or company's personnel, perceive this was because of the minority population here, or for some other reason?

LINDA JOHNSON: I think what they did from negotiating to come into the state, the powers that be -- the cheaper powers of all those people -- they were told that we don't have a minority problem here.

RALPH BARR: What I'm asking is that because of the minority population being so small, that the thing if you are working with affirmative action and you are working with goals and that kind of thing, you are not talking about a whole lot of people. Is that the reason you are saying? Was that your perception?

That's what they are saying because of the population. Because, needless to say, because if a company was moving into an area like Los Angeles or San Antonio, or something, there is no way that

company could sit there and not have a lot of minorities.

LINDA JOHNSON: This is true. But, if the particular company moved in here from Los Angeles --

RALPH BARR: If you move into an area where there is a small minority population, and the way the affirmative action guidelines are set up --

And somebody said to me, "You don't have to worry about hiring minorities here, because there is not that many here," as opposed to saying, "You don't have to worry about hiring minorities here, because there are too few of them to make a stink about it if you don't." There's a difference between the two, and I got the latter impression.

RALPH BARR: Anyway, it had something to do with the number of minorities that were here.

BARBARA PEARCE: The availability will make a great deal of difference in different cities.

LINDA JOHNSON: I understand that it's attitudes we were concerned about.

JOANNE BIRGE: The Governor of South Dakota has caused a lot of unrest in his state. He has made it known publicly if companies will move to companies will move to companies will move to companies will work for less than minimum wage and not say

anything about it.

It sounds like you are talking about the same kind of thing. "If your company will come here, we'll see that nobody on the State level will hassle you." It sounds to me that maybe it's a similar kind of thing. Because right now, there is that competition to be a corporate center.

LENORIS BUSH: There is three things that is shown by the Chamber of Commerce when they sell Utah. Number one is: We subsidize. For each dollar, we'll subsidize public dollars 8 to 1; that is number one. And number two is: We have very few minorities. And Number three: We have a very good work ethic. Most people are working, and at a very low wage.

Those are the three things that sell this state from the promotion division of this state, from the Chamber of Commerce, and NABS -- which I sat on two boards, one with NABS, and one with the Chamber of Commerce. And those are the things that are talked about more readily.

And we had a conference about a month ago where we invited all these new businesses in and took job training moneys. And we sent people to challenge

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them and to look at prospective new businesses that are coming to Salt Lake City. But they do involve all these things: We never mention a minority population. We never talk about it. It's not in any reference. only black you will see in the little book that they put together on Utah in this area, you see one black basketball player on the Utah Jazz. If you didn't know it was Utah Jazz, you wouldn't know there were any black people in the whole state.

The one problem that I came up with -- and that's American Express executives out to train in the community and how they were going to be involved. It became the impression on me -- I had to sit and talk to the lady and talk about the black community. And I said, "What does this community do to offer to blacks?" because that was never explained.

LINDA JOHNSON: By the same token, I feel that same company never did any outreach to pull any blacks. There was one black hired.

LENORIS BUSH: There was an agreement that is stricken with the rest of the companies in this valley. The agreement was that they would only pull two people from any existing work force, because, see, there was a lot of stink raised by Mountain Fuel in the beginning because American Express wages are more

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than theirs, and they are highest paid in the valley in terms of office workers. And that was the first stink. And they said, "No way are you going to pull all of our labor and all these people we spent all these years on."

And so American Express said, "We won't do that. We'll only hire two people from existing companies. And we'll make our work force from people that were unemployed."

And then they came here and made a big splash down. We want to talk to minorities and do right. And they moved in here, and nobody was hired. They brought in a new division and 300 people, and no minorities were hired. I know of two.

JOANNE BIRGE: How many have you audited in Utah in the last fiscal year? How many companies has OFCCP audited in the last fiscal year in Utah?

RALPH BARR: The last fiscal year, we have one compliance officer.

JOANNE BIRGE: For the whole state?

RALPH BARR: For the whole office, yes. So that person is responsible -- it would be eight.

This office was set up to have seven people at one time. But because of all the cuts, as people left,

there was no back fill. So that's what we're stuck

with.

this meeting to a close. We got a lot of good work done today. We got a lot of information out. And I think what we're intending to do with it all is to compile it and get down to a specific pressure kind of thing on these issues we have talked about, and do that during the month of July. And we will be calling on some of you.

What I'd like to do is introduce Bill Muldrow, who is the Acting Executive Director of the Civil Rights Commission, Regional Office, and ask him to maybe give a few brief remarks.

(Whereupon, upon the request of the chairperson, Linda Johnson, the remarks of Bill Muldrow were not reported by the reporter.)

LINDA JOHNSON: I'd like to thank you all for coming out. We had a long session, but we worked in the whole session. And I'd like you to know that this meeting is adjourned.

(Whereupon, the meeting was concluded at 9:00 p.m.)

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1 STATE OF UTAH ss. 2 COUNTY OF SALT LAKE ) 3 I, SUZANNE WARNICK, Shorthand Reporter and 4 Notary Public within and for the County of Salt Lake, 5 State of Utah do hereby certify: 6 THAT the foregoing proceedings were taken before 7 me at the time and place set forth herein, and was taken 8 down by me in shorthand and thereafter transcribed into 9 typewriting under my direction and supervision. 10 THAT the foregoing pages contain a true and 11 correct transcription of my said shorthand notes so 12 taken. 13 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have subscribed my name 14 and affixed my seal this \_// day of \_\_fuly 15 16 17 18 SUZANNE WARNICK SUZANNE WARNICK Shorthand Reporter 19 Notary Public in and for the County of Salt Lake, 20 State of Utah 21 My commission expires: 22 4-1-87 23 24

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