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Fletcher fears racial violence

SEATTLE (AP)—Art Fletcher, Republican candidate for lieutenant governor, said Wednesday if the attitude of violence in the black community is left unchecked there will be "race wars dwarfing anything we have experienced to date."

Fletcher called on church members to help stem the trend toward violence and "establish an environment in which nonviolence would prevail."

He said the church is a "tremendous untapped resource" and that its retired business executives could help ghetto-based business projects. The same is true of retired craftsmen and others, he said.

"All we have gotten from the church so far is token involvement and a lot of interracial dialogue," Fletcher said. "The people want action."

Fletcher, the first Negro nominated to a high statewide office in Washington, held a joint news

conference with Secretary of State Lud Kramer and announced that Kramer would serve as a full-time coordinator for his campaign against incumbent Lt. Gov. John Cherberg.

Kramer said his own re-election campaign organization in all 39 counties would divide its time between Kramer, Fletcher and Slade Gorton, candidate for attorney general.

Kramer, chairman of a state commission studying civil disorders, supported Fletcher's idea of church involvement.

"We know now there is not a single solution to problems in the core areas of our cities. It's up to public officials to look for new answers."

Fletcher, Pasco city councilman, said he has been working on an urban affairs legislative package to be submitted to the 1969 Legislature. He said he hoped to present the package to Gov. Dan Evans within 15 days.