

To: Edward G. Dawson, Executive
Director
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From: Arthur A. Fletcher, CEO
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Dear Greg:

It was great seeing you at the event in Valdosta, Georgia, recently. A lot of water has gone under bridge and significant number of positive changes has occurred, for the African American Community in Georgia and elsewhere in the country, since we last visited with one another.

Your organization's state chapter as well as the national leadership is certainly entitled to take its share of the credit for the fokkiwung: Namely the fact that African Americans and other citizens of color, in American, can look to a brighter future as well as unimigianed opportunitise in the business, technical and professional arenia's as the 21st Century begains to unfold.

Congradulations for staying the course and doing an admirable job, in super tuff times and in uncharted waters.

As to my availability to serve as your Power Breakfast speaker, on September 13, 2000, **my answer is yes.** However, at the moment I am not sure that I can stay for the entire affair. As I told you, when we last spoke, June 27,2000, is the 31st Annaversy of the Affirmative Action Enforement Movement, (see attached press release) that I set in motion 31 years ago.

I have already informed the media that I am announcing and launch a 36 city tour, designed to detail the progress the nation is enjoying because Affirmative Action has achieved the objectives that I had in mind when I started it 31 years ago. Nation wide resistance to process, was effective to the extent that the plan was never properly implemented anywhere in the country.. Nevertheless, it worked well enough to enable America to hold its own in the most competative global economic environment the civilized world has known.

Although I have not made the public announcement yet, the word is on the grape vine concerning what I am planning to do. Therefore my calendar is filling up already. Thus, once I announce the tour on June 27th, I expect to be flooded with request to speak and conduct **Ready, willing, and Able Teach-ins and Life Management Workshops** all over the country.

The objective of the project is to assist existing small businesses, and new start-ups, develop the strategies and tactics needed to be competitive, and *be* profitable enough to sustain a business enterprise during these trubulant ever changing market conditions. It is also designed to help such firms appreciate the value of dedicated employees, and a capable workforce needed to keep the doors of a business enterprise open.

X Before closing, I should add that the following: from 1983 to 88, I owned and managed a contract food service company. I had a workforce of 300-plus employees. They prepared and served 68,000 plus meals per month and were rated in the top five civilian food service companies in a nation wide army competition each year that we had the contract.

X The point is, I am not just a civil rights advocate. I know something about running a successful business also. That's why I am planning the nation wide training tour mentioned above.

Helping others succeed in the business arena is a imperative if America's firms are to be profitable at home and abroad in the competitive world environment that is already upon us. Therefore, should your organization decided to have me address you members, as much as I would like to, I can't commit to staying through the entire event at this time. I expect my schedule to fill quickly once I announce that the above mentioned tour is on.