

by Paul Dirmeyer

Jackson goes after Hispanic coalition

United Press International
CORPUS CHRISTI—Potential presidential candidate Jesse Jackson plans an unprecedented trip to the Rio Grande Valley to pursue a coalition between blacks and Hispanics, attorney Tony Bonilla said Wednesday.

Bonilla said that Jackson, on leave of absence as president of PUSH (People United to Serve Humanity), will speak at noon Friday at Del Mar College in

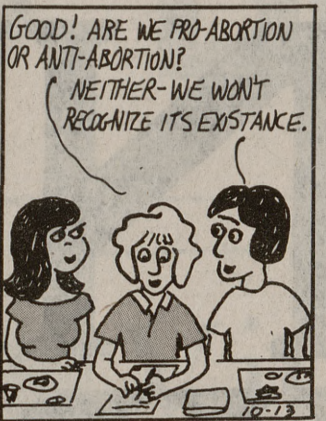
Corpus Christi and at 3 p.m. at Pan American University in the South Texas town of Edinburg. The Edinburg speech is being coordinated by state Sen. Hector Uribe, D-Brownsville.

Bonilla, former president of the League of United Latin American Citizens, said that he and Jackson have talked about a possible coalition of blacks, Hispanics and other groups. Bonilla now heads the Hispanic Leadership Conference.

"This will be the first time a national black leader has traveled into a predominantly Hispanic area to pursue the dream of a coalition," Bonilla said.

"We hope his presence will stimulate (voter) registration and create interest in presidential politics," he said.

Bonilla said he hoped Jackson's visit to the Rio Grande Valley will bring attention to the serious economic problems there.



Town angry over jets; fights 'boom-bardment'

United Press International
VALENTINE—Residents of a little West Texas town, angered over Air Force plans to super-sonic missions over them, will prepare their own statement to keep the community from receiving up to 12 boom-booms a day.

The Air Force, unable to train its F-15 jet fighters in the crowded airspace above White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico, said the training missions are vital to test the counter-air defense system.

Officials from Holloman Air Force Base, Alamogordo, N.M., proposing that training be conducted over Reserve, N.M., and at Valentine, a town of 400 located about 150 miles southeast of El Paso.

Ralph Voight, president of Council for the Preservation of the West Texas Frontier, said

a town meeting Tuesday in Valentine raised unanswered questions of how the sonic booms would affect humans, livestock, wildlife and tourism. The townspeople will take their cause to the courts if the town does not get a "just settlement" of the issue, Voight said.

"Our rights as owners of private lands will not be 'boom-barded' away because we are so few and you are so powerful."

A council lawyer, Joe Hood of El Paso, said the residents and the Air Force have plenty of time to settle the issue and that a lawsuit would be premature at this stage.

The Air Force will present its draft of an environmental im-

pact statement to the citizens of Catron County, N. M., where Reserve is, on Oct. 20. Citizens there have also threatened to sue the Air Force.

Voight said the Air Force was not in compliance with the National Environmental Protection Act. The Air Force confused the issue by concealing the facts and giving false information, he said.

The Air Force statements that tests on adobe structures showed no damage were based on tests using one house and one sonic boom, Voight said.

"We are determined to take our battle to the courts so that we may be fairly heard and our rights as owners of private lands will not be 'boom-barded' away because we are so few and you are so powerful," Voight told a panel of seven Air Force officers and two civilians.

Col. Richard Stramm, commanding officer of the 49th Tactical Fighter Wing at Holloman, said the altitude of the aircrafts has been raised to 15,000 feet to minimize the sonic booms. The F-15 fighter jets will maintain a five-mile buffer zone from the town, Stramm said.

Officials said the Air Force wants to fly 300 military operations per month in the Valentine and Reserve areas.

Hood said he was disappointed that the Air Force had no technical experts at the public hearing. The Air Force must complete its environmental impact statement and submit its findings to the secretary of the Air Force before Nov. 4, he said.

Residents have until Nov. 4 to submit written comments into the record before the final decision is made, he said.

Cowboy turned artist at home on the palette

United Press International
ALBUQUERQUE—Anger with a cowboy foreman prompted New Mexico cowboy Gary Morton to his job seven years ago—a job which has since convinced him he can make better living as a western artist.

The 32-year-old, who still wears boots and a hat, was among the winners at a recent national western art show in Albuquerque.

His watercolors range from a painting of a solitary cowboy riding his horse to a large picture of a bronco buster trying to stay on a stallion.

"Now I paint cowboys," Morton said, adding that his latest work gives him "the chance to be on a lot more ranches."

Every spring and fall he hires himself out as a cowboy, returning to a ranch for a few days to help with branding or roping.

The studio will drive you crazy," Morton said of his Lincoln, New Mexico home, adding that he still considers himself a cowboy even though he is no longer constantly tied to the range.

After getting acquainted with fellow workers, he pulls out a camera to take the photographs that become models for his watercolors.

Morton said he improves on the photograph because cowboy experience tells him what is hidden in the shadows missed by photographs.

"To be a cowboy you got to have your head up all the time," Morton said. "I don't think I'll ever go back to it for a living, but I won't ever quit cowboying either."

When they say it's time to go out on a fence—that's when I say I have to go paint."

But he credits his cowboy experience for his success as an artist.

Western art is popular because everyone has some relation to it, who was a cowboy once upon a time, Morton said, predicting there will be cowboys as long as there is beef.

Morton said his former bosses didn't pay him enough.

Six years ago we were in pretty bad shape," he said, adding his wife then worked as a cowboy on the range when she was taking care of their two children.

"Now she works for me," Morton said he started by selling about 150 paintings a year for \$50 to \$100, but his family depends on income generated by the sale of 40 paintings a year, which he said bring high prices each year.

"I don't know much about painting, but I do know what a cowboy looks like and what he thinks like," he said.

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