



The African Diaspora Youth Development Foundation, Inc.  
P.O Box 8601 St. Thomas, Virgin Islands 00801

October 13, 2015

Myron Jackson  
Senator  
VI legislature  
Capitol Building  
St. Thomas, Virgin Islands 00802

Dear Senator Jackson, staff and colleagues of the 31<sup>st</sup> Legislature,

I truly feel blessed and honored to speak on this great, renaissance man; who has truly been a guiding beacon of light for all to follow; be it in the legislature, at the Reichhold Center, or sitting having a cool drink by his offices for his ferry service to the British Virgin Islands called, "The Bomba Charger", or at his Restaurant appropriately called, "The Tortola Wharf."

Bingley G. Richardson, Sr. is whom I am talking about. A renaissance man who made everything *seem* easy. His easy going nature gave him admirers throughout the Virgin Islands. Despite protracted battles with the competing ferry services, or major cost infusions in his business due to boat repair, this captain never had to worry about unruly employees, nor having repair problems in the middle of Drake's Passage; he believed and instilled in his employees to prepare, have at ready and be polite to every passenger, and this business will provide.

I speak on this business because with it Bingley did, as most businesses should do, he gave back to the community in so many ways. He donated to baseball teams, schools, Milo and the Kings record productions, advertisement in local award dinners, shows and school programs. He formed a self-help Campaign after Hurricane Marilyn in 1995 using his business acumen. Bingley changed the mindset of the socialist argument of capitalism and the use of economics to emasculate the proletariat because he used it as his mentor and teacher, the late Carlos A. Cooks, founder and administrator of the African Nationalist Pioneer Movement imbued within his rank and file that capital, if used with the intend of building a community, race, in short, a people, its raw form of communalism, it actually in a philanthropic way will enhance rather than tear down.

Page 2 of 2

Bingley G. Richardson

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Marcella Jennings

Bingley used the ideology of African Nationalism and the edicts of men such as Marcus Garvey, founder of the Universal Negro Improvement Association and African Community leagues and who was Carlos A. Cooks mentor; the late honorable Edward Wilmot Blyden, Pan-Africanist, scholar and iconic Virgin Islander; a prolific writer and spokesman of the African race and it's need to repatriate to Africa as he did.

Bingley used his training to unite his people. Within the African Nationalist Pioneer Movement Bingley was an officer. Carlos Cooks saw something in him to give him this prestigious title that was solidified with an oath, one that Bingley never veered away from, even after the journey back to his natal land.

Once he and my late husband, Nab Eddie Bobo, reunited in the Virgin Islands, he immediately assisted Nab by become a member of The African Diaspora Youth Development Foundation, Inc. and supporting the programs of the organization. He was a prolific writer in its organ, "The Street Speaker Magazine"; he was our main Master of Ceremonies and Guest Speaker for our The Carlos Cooks Achievement Award To An Outstanding Black Businessperson dinners; our now called the Nab Eddie Bobo Black History Month lecture, Plaque and Photo Series at the University of the Virgin Islands and for dozens of our programs. Each speech was well prepared and his thoughts organized on the central subject, mainly Black unity and economic development within our community. His presentations always spellbound the audience and readership. In fact, he disclosed to us that his entry into politics was actually based on his writings in "The Street Speaker Magazine" which were read by another giant of Virgin Islands politics the late Honorable Senator Earl B. Ottley who, after reading his writings, convinced Bingley he was needed in the legislature.

Well before Nab Eddie Bobo arrived in 1971 to the Virgin Islands, Bingley was already well established bringing the community together with his Calvacade Africana African centered carnival troupe. Calvacade Africana was actually the name of one of The African Nationalism Pioneer Movement publications where Bingley penned several articles. His popular plays depicted during carnival would later be featured on the grand stage at the Reichhold Center. Plays such as Strummo Wedding. He also help initiate the Free Beach Movement and many of his carnival troupe members took up the clarion call to organize picnics on beaches enveloped by the hotels and push for uninhibited access to the beach which become law.

It was a pleasure to honor him in March 2015 at our annual Black lecture Series at the University of the Virgin Islands where his family and friends gave their loving memories of him and his career. A photo and plaque of Bingley now holds a place on our wall at the Ralph M. Paiewonsky Library, which honors our heroes and sheroes within and outside these verdant islands.

It's an honor to have him in our presence to this day and I thank the VI legislature for preparing this resolution in his name.



Marcella Jennings  
Resident

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