Selected Landmarks in the

history of U.S. White Supremacy

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by Sharon Martinas

(Second Draft July 1992)

This listing mentions actions specifically designed to exclude, oppress or subordinate peoples of color. It is a list of commissions. Not included are all the activities and policies of omissions, actions which ignore the already existing structures of supremacy and subordination; and which assume that the U.S. is a democratic nation, where all people are equal.)

1513 Juan Ponce de Leon lands on the Florida peninsula.

1519 Hernan Cortez arrives in land now known as Mexico.

1565 Spaniards establish St. Augustine colony in Florida, first in present U.S.

1607 First English speaking whites arrive in Virginia.

1619 20 Africans brought to Jamestown colony. Beginning of slave trade which brings millions of Africans to America. Legal trade ends in 1808, but illegal trade continues until 1860.

1625 Samoset of the Pemaquid Indians in Massachusetts, signs first treaty deeding Indian lands to the English colonists.

1630 First law specifically mentioning race. In Re Davis, a white man is whipped for sleeping with a "negro" woman.

1637 New England colonists massacre 500 Native Americans in Pequot war. This is the first massacre of indigenous people by English colonists in the future U.S. territory.

1662 Virginia enacts law stating that if an "Englishman" begets a child of a "Negro woman," the child will take on the woman's status, ie., that of a slave. This law made slavery hereditary.

1681 Maria, an African slave, is burnt at the stake in Massachusetts. Her crime is attempting to burn down the house of her master. Her male compatriots are hanged, and banished, respectively.

1691 Virginia enacts a law stating that if a white (bond or free) marries a person of color (Negro, mulatto or Indian), the couple will be banished from the colony. Banishment means almost certain death in the woods.

1754-63 The Iroquois nation allies with the French against the British in a war, and are betrayed by their allies.

1755 Massachusetts offers a bounty of twenty pounds for the scalp of a male Indian, and ten pounds for the scalp of a female Indian or an Indian child under 12.

1769 Padre Junipero Serra establishes first Spanish missions in California. Indians enslaved and forced to live on Mission. Beginning of genocide of California Indians.

1776 The Declaration of Independence is proclaimed. It states that "all men are created equal...with certain inalienable rights...Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." This declaration, which becomes the basis for the ideology of U.S. "democracy," excludes Africans, Native Americans and European women.

1789 The Constitution of the United States protects slavery and the slave trade in 12 different places, without ever mentioning the word. Slaves are called "other persons." All rights and privileges of life under the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights, exclude slaves and Indians. Specific civil and political liberties of free Africans are left up to each state.

1790 Congress, in its first session, enacts the Naturalization Law of 1790. The law specifies that only free white immigrants would be eligible for naturalized citizenship. Under this law, first generation immigrants from Asia, the Caribbean, Central and South America and Africa are expressly denied civil rights, the right to vote, and, therefore, the right to own land. Also excluded from these rights are Native Americans and, by states rights, most free Africans.

The 1790 Naturalization Law is not completely wiped off the books until the McCarran Walter Act of 1952!

1816 Northern whites organize American Colonization Society to ship free Blacks back to Africa.

1818 First war of U.S. against Seminole Indians and once-enslaved Africans in Florida. Known in history books as the "Florida purchase."

1820's U.S. had bought Louisiana Territory from France in 1803. (France is bankrupt after being defeated in a ten year war with Haitian slaves, resulting in the independence of Haiti.) President Jefferson advocates removal of all Indians from Southeastern states because " Indians and whites cannot live side by side."

1830 Indian Removal Act, the first act initiated by President Andrew Jackson. Calls for the voluntary or forcible removal of the Choctaw, Creek, Cherokee, Chickasaw and Seminole nations from Southeastern states. Territory of Oklahoma set aside as "Indian Territory."

1830 David Walker, militant anti-slavery and anti-racist African American author of the Appeal to the Colored Citizens of the World, mysteriously drops dead in front of his Boston storefront. Friends and associates suspect poison, but no investigation is done.

1835 U.S. slave holding colonists in Northern Mexican territory of Texas declare war on Mexico.

1836 Victorious U.S. colonists in Texas establish Texas as an independent nation.

1838 The Cherokee Nation's Trail of Tears in which 25% of their population dies in the forced march to Indian Territory.

1845 U.S. government annexes Texas. John O'Sullivan, editor of the Democratic Review, says of the forthcoming war with Mexico, it was the "manifest destiny to overspread the continent allotted by Providence for the free development of our yearly multiplying millions." (emphasis added)

1846 U.S. government declares war on Mexico.

1848 U.S. defeats Mexico and "purchases" for $15 million over one third of the Mexican nation. The land includes the future states of California, Texas, Utah, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, parts of Colorado and Wyoming.

The war demonstrates the gruesome bloodiness of the U.S. army. Outstanding in their butchery are the Texas Rangers who become institutionalized as the occupying army over conquered Mexicans in the state of Texas.

1848 U.S. and Mexico sign the Treaty of Guadelupe Hidalgo. The Treaty promises to protect the lands, language and culture of the Mexicans living in the ceded territory. Mexicans are given the right to become U.S. citizens if they choose to remain in their homes.

Congress refuses to pass Article X of the treaty which would protect the ancestral land titles of the Mexican peoples. Instead, Congress substitutes a "Statement of Protocol" which protects these lands according to the "laws of the United States." Under the implementation of this "Protocol," Mexicans have to prove, in U.S. courts, speaking English, with U.S. lawyers, that they have legitimate title to their own lands.

The Statement of Protocol thus becomes the legal basis for the massive U.S. land theft from Mexicans in the conquered territories.

1849 The Hounds, a European vigilante group in San Francisco, attacks a Chilean miner community, raping women, burning houses and lynching two men.

1850 The California legislature passes the Foreign Miners Tax, which requires Chinese and Latin American gold miners to pay a special tax on their holdings, a tax not required of European American miners.

1850 California legislature passes an act legalizing indentured servitude of children, under guise of apprenticeship. Children can be taken from parents, given food, clothing and shelter in exchanged for "learning work at a trade" with no pay.

1850 Supreme Court declares Missouri Compromise (which had set boundaries on the extension of slavery into the Louisiana Purchase territories) unconstitutional. Political struggle emerges around status of the new lands from Mexico. In the Compromise of 1850, the "Free Soilers" got California as a free

state; the "Popular Sovereignty" supporters got New Mexico and Utah as lands in which white voters can decide if they want slavery or not; and Southern slave holders get the Fugitive Slave Act.

1850 Congress passes the Fugitive Slave Law which provides that: 1) only a sworn affidavit from a white would be needed to claim that a Black person is an escaped slave; 2) the Black person has no rights to challenge that claim in court; 3) federal marshals are empowered to capture the runaways, and to deputize assistance from other whites; 4)commissioners who hear testimony about the status of an alleged runaway would be paid $10 for each person sent into slavery, but only $5 for each person set free.

1851 After 2000 people gather to watch a Chicana lynched in Downieville, California, a mining town, the Mexican miners dub U.S. democracy, "linchocracia."

1851 The California Land Act requires Mexican landowners (Californios) to prove title to their land in courts using English, according to U.S. law. The Act also encourages European American settlers to squat on Mexican lands.

The effects of both the California Act and a Federal Land Act of 1851 were to remove most Californios from their land and to give Southern Pacific Railroad ownership of 11,588,000 acres of California.

1857 300-400 California Indians massacred in Petaluma under the excuse that someone took a cow. In 1860, after a massacre of 200 Indians in Eureka, one white man boasts of killing 60 Indian infants with his hatchet.

1857 US Supreme Court decides the Dred Scott case. Dred Scott was a slave who followed his owner to a free state and then sued for his freedom. The Court said that Scott was still a slave; that the Constitution specifically excluded Blacks from its rights of citizenship; and that no African had rights that a white man was bound to respect.

1862 During the height of the Civil War, Congress passes the Homestead Act allotting 160 acres of Western (i.e. Indian) land to "anyone" who could pay $1.25 an acre and cultivate it for five years. European immigrants (who could scrape together $200) and land speculators bought these 50 million acres.

During the Civil War, Congress gave 100 million acres of Indian land free to the railroads. Since the Homestead Act applied only to U.S. citizens, Indians, Blacks and non-European immigrants were excluded from the law's provision.

Within 10 years, 85,000,000 acres of Indian lands had been sold to European homesteaders.

1862 Congress also passes the Morrell Act, creating land grant colleges in each state; and the Railroad Act, assuring a coast-to-coast railway. These two acts, in conjunction with the Homestead Act, spell the death of the Plains Indians, whose lands are the subject of all these measures.

Within 10 years, 71,000,000 acres of Indian lands had been

given to land grant colleges and 155,000,000 acres to the railroad companies.

1862 California legislature, under strong pressure from white miners, passes law to "protect Free White Labor against competition with Chinese Coolie Labor, and to discourage the Immigration of the Chinese into the State of California."

1863 The famous Emancipation Proclamation declared by President Lincoln provides that slaves from the Confederate States are legally free, but slaves from the Union States (Missouri, Kentucky, Delaware and Maryland) are specifically exempted from the Act. In other words, slaves were freed in the new Confederate Nation over which the Proclamation had no legal power whatsoever; but slavery would continue in the Union.

1863 White workers in New York City riot against the Black community, killing hundreds, wounding thousands, and forcing most of the community to escape the city. The workers, mostly recent Irish immigrants, say that Blacks have been brought in as strike breakers, and that the whites resent being sent to fight in a war to free other potential strike breakers,

1864 The U.S. army massacres 300 Cheyenne Indians in the infamous Sand Creek Massacre. U.S. Army General Chivington explains his actions: "I have come to kill Indians and I believe it is right and honorable to use any means under God's heaven to kill Indians."

1865 The famous 13th Amendment abolishing slavery is passed, but it contains a little known provision: "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States..." (emphasis added) In other words, the 13th Amendment lays the basis for slavery of imprisoned people, the disproportionate number of whom would be peoples of color.

1865 President Andrew Johnson overturns General Sherman's Field Order #15 which had granted thousands of acres of confiscated plantation land to freed people in South Carolina and Georgia. Under pressure from enraged white southerners, Johnson begins to dismantle Black army units that are protecting the freed people's new lands and communities. General Howard tells Black landholders on the Sea Islands that they must return their lands to the plantation owners, and go to work for them!

1865 "Defeated" Southern states pass Black Codes, newer versions of the old Slave codes.

1865 Legislation establishing Freedmen's Bureau specifically refuses to confiscate land from political and military planter leadership of the Confederacy, and give the land to the freed people. Instead, a limited amount of already abandoned land is made available. Freed people are allowed to "lease" up to 40 acres for three years at 1860 prices, when land value was highest. Most land goes to speculators. Freed peoples establish some cooperatives to buy and work the land, but these cooperative are focus targets of white vigilantes, including KKK.

1865 Thomas Catron, leader of the Santa Fe Ring, arrives in New Mexico. The Ring, composed of Anglo merchants, politicians, bankers, land speculators, ranchers, lawyers and judges rules New Mexico for two decades. The Ring uses U.S. law and vigilante terror to take away most of the lands of native Mexicans.
1866 Ku Klux Klan is organized. Thousands of Blacks are massacred in this period. No accurate records are available.

1868 The Treaty of Fort Laramie, signed between the US Army and the Oglala Sioux under Red Cloud, stipulates that no whites will travel through or live in the Black Hills areas without Indian permission. When gold is discovered in the hills, Congress changes the terms of the treaty, but "neglects" to tell the Sioux.

1871 A white mob in Los Angeles attacks a Chinese community, killing 19 and destroying the community.

1871 US Army massacres Apache Indians at Camp Grant.

1872-74. U.S. government permits white traders to slaughter buffalo in order to rid Plains of Indians. In this three year period, 3,700,000 buffalo are killed. By 1874, power of Plains Indians: Cheyenne, Kiowa and Comanche are destroyed.

1877 Crazy Horse of Sioux Nation killed. Sioux driven out of Nebraska to barren reservation on Missouri River.

1877 Hayes Tilden Compromise removes federal troops from the South, leaving Blacks totally unprotected from white violence. Reconstruction officially ends. The Southern economy is still based on Black labor, now called "sharecropping," a form of agricultural semi-slavery. Northern industries, banks, and merchants are the main economic beneficiaries of the sharecropping system.

Beginning of 50 years of intense repression, denial of all political, civil, educational rights that African Americans had struggled for, and won to some extent, during Reconstruction.

1877 White mob ransacks Chinatown, burning homes and shops, killing and maiming unknown numbers of Chinese people.

1882 Congress enacts the Chinese Exclusion Act preventing Chinese immigrant workers from coming to the U.S. In this act, the Chinese become the first nationality to be barred expressly by name.

1882-1900 3011 recorded lynchings of African Americans, primarily, but not exclusively, in the South. (In reality, there were many more, but they are not recorded.)

1885 Whites riot against Chinese in Rock Springs, Wyoming and kill 28, wound more, drive others from their homes.

1886 Apache warrior Geronimo surrenders to the U.S. army. His surrender marks the defeat of Southwest Indian nations.

1887 Congress passes the Daves Land Allotment Act which divides reservations into individual plots of land, and expressly forbids communal land ownership. Men get 160 acres; women and children less. Unused land could be sold to whites.

As a result, Indians lose 100 million acres, nearly 2/3 of their holdings at the time. The greatest beneficiaries are the railroads. Money from land sales goes to set up boarding schools, in which Indian children are forced to give up their culture and religion, and to adopt the white man's ways.

1887 The Supreme Court decides in favor of the Maxwell Company, a division of the Santa Fe Ring (see entry for 1865), in allotting 1,714,765 acres of Mexican and Indian land in New Mexico to the Anglo corporation.

1888 The Scott act prohibits the immigration of Chinese laborers. Only merchants, professionals and travelers are permitted to come from China.

1890 Three hundred Sioux Indians are massacred by the U.S. Army at Wounded Knee. The massacre marks the end of the 19th century struggle of the Plains Indians to keep their lands safe from white invaders, their people and their way of life alive.

1892 A lynch mob in Santa Ana, California hangs Mexican worker, Francisco Torres, after taking him from the Santa Ana jail. They hang a sign around the dead man's neck which says, "Change of Venue."

1893 In Paris, Texas, an African American named Henry Smith, accused of raping a five year old white girl (the standard myth used to justify lynching), is tortured with red hot irons and burned alive. School children are given the day off as a holiday so they can witness the event. Railroads run special excursions to the lynch site. The lynch mob fights over Henry Smith's bones, teeth and buttons for souvenirs.

1893 Queen Liliuokalani of Hawaii is overthrown by U.S. planter colonists in a bloodless revolution. The Republic of Hawaii is established, with Stanford Dole (Dole Pineapples) as president.

1896 In Plessy v. Ferguson, the Supreme Courts declares separate but "equal" facilities to be constitutional.

1898 Hawaii is annexed by the United States.

1898 The U.S. defeats Spain, and acquires Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Philippines. Cuba, which had already declared her independence from Spain, becomes a virtual colony of the U.S.

1900 Congress passes the Foraker Act. The U.S. establishes a colonial government in Puerto Rico, in which the U.S. appoints the governor and executive council.

1905 San Francisco School Board segregates Chinese, Korean and Japanese students.

1908 The U.S. and Japan made a Gentleman's Agreement which limits the number of Japanese immigrants to the U.S. The San Francisco School Board then agrees to rescind its segregation of Japanese students. (Were Chinese and Koreans still segregated?)

1913 The California legislature passes a law making it very difficult for Japanese immigrants to lease land.
1917 White mobs massacre 39 African Americans in a riot in East St. Louis, Missouri.

1917 The Jones Act makes Puerto Ricans U.S. citizens and subject to the draft...just in time to fight in World War I.

1917 Congress enacts another immigration act which creates an Asiatic Barred Zone, a "line in the sand" in Asia from which immigration was banned. The line cut off all migrants from India.

1919 During "Red Summer" (so named because of all the blood that flowed), white mobs attacked Black communities in Omaha, Washington, Knoxville and Chicago. Black people, especially returning veterans, fought back. In Chicago, police participated in the riot against the Black community, and white labor leaders helped to organize the white mobs.

1922 Citing the 1790 Naturalization Act, the Supreme Court held that Japanese immigrants were not eligible for citizenship.

1923 Federal officials, under leadership of newly appointed federal investigator J. Edgar Hoover, arrest and imprison Marcus Garvey for mail fraud. Four years later, when Garvey is released from prison, the U.S. deports him, thus seriously undermining that largest African organization the world had seen to that day.

1924 The Johnson Reed Immigration Act sets restrictive quotas on immigrants from Asia, Africa and Latin America.
The Oriental Exclusion Act virtually bars all Asian immigration, stating that those who are "ineligible for citizenship" according to the 1922 Supreme Court decision, are therefore ineligible for immigration. Filipinos were the only Asian grouping exempt from the Act.

1929 White mobs attack Filipinos in Exeter, California and injure 200.

1934 The Tydings-McDuffie Act grants independence to the Philippines and limits immigration to fifty persons per year. The Act specifies that in 1946, when the independence process will be complete, all Filipinos will be excluded from the U.S. under the terms of the Oriental Exclusion Act.

1935 President Roosevelt signs the Repatriation Act which offers free transportation to Filipinos who would return to their homeland.

1935 The National Labor Relations Act, known as the Wagner Act, legalizes the right to organize and form unions, but specifically excludes farm workers and domestic workers, most of whom are Chicano, Asian and African American.

1930's U.S. deports 600,000 Mexicans, many of whom are U.S. citizens.

1942 Roosevelt signs Executive Order 9066, authorizing internment of 110,000 Japanese Americans living in California, including those who are American citizens.

1942 U.S. and Mexico agree to a bracero program which authorizes Mexicans to work temporarily in the U.S., and limits protection for these workers. Mexico refuses to allow workers to go to Texas because conditions are so bad for Mexicans in that state.

1943 White mobs in Detroit murder 34 African Americans.

1943 White mobs in Los Angeles, led by sailors and soldiers, attack young Mexicans in Los Angeles in the infamous "zoot suit" riots. Police arrest only Mexican youth, no anglos.

1947 The Taft Hartley Act seriously restricts the rights to organize of all working people, and especially targets workers of color by forcing unions to take an anti-communist loyalty oath. Since leftists and communists had been instrumental in organizing the Congress of Industrial Organization which had organized large numbers of workers of color; the loyalty oath in effect, seriously hampered future efforts to organize workers of color. Since the 1960's, most organizing of workers of color has been done in service sector industries and in agriculture, where these workers are concentrated. Mainstream AFL-CIO support for these new efforts has been too little and too late.

1952 The McCarran Walter Immigration Act repeals the exclusion from citizenship provisions of the 1790 Naturalization Act, but keeps the quota system based on national origins; bars from entry any travelers or immigrants the U.S. considers politically subversive; and provides for deportation of any immigrants who challenge U.S. political or economic policies.

The Act gives extensive police interrogation powers to the INS, and few protections to the interrogated. The INS powers are used extensively to prevent organization of Chicano and Asian workers, in both fields and factories. Employers frequently call the INS to raid a work place and deport workers just before payday.

1954 U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service sets up Operation Wetback to round up and deport "illegal" Mexicans living in the United States.

Mid 1960's FBI under J. Edgar Hoover sets up the COINTELPRO (Counter Intelligence Program) to destroy the Black liberation movement. The Program, although "officially" ended in the mid 70's, continues to this day under different names.

1964 The Democratic Party refuses to seat the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party in place of the segregationist Mississippi Democrats at the Party's convention in Atlanta.

1965 Malcolm X assassinated after FBI infiltrates the Nation of Islam to promote opposition to Malcolm.

1965 The Immigration Act of 1965 liberalized immigration for peoples of Asia, Latin America and Africa, but subsequent implementation of the law tied immigration procedures directly to foreign policy.

If a nation has a progressive or leftist government, nationals from that country are welcomed to the U.S. as political refugees (i.e., Cuba, Vietnam and Nicaragua before 1989). If the nation is a reactionary or military dictatorship supported by the U.S., people fleeing political repression are denied refugee status and deported (Salvadorans, Guatemalans, Haitians).

This discriminatory policy has aggravated political tensions within the affected immigrant communities, and weakened their capacity to fight racist practices against all immigrants of color in the United States.

1965 The Moynihan Report blames the problems of the Black community on strong Black women!

1968 Martin Luther King is assassinated.

1968-69 Mayor Alioto of San Francisco creates the infamous Tactical Squad to launch military attacks against the Third World Liberation Front strikers at San Francisco State.

1969 Reies Tijerina, leader of a militant Chicano movement to retake indigenous Mexican lands in New Mexico, is imprisoned for three years in a federal penitentiary. The Supreme Court upholds the conviction.

1971 State of New York launches a military assault on striking prisoners at Attica state prison. The attacks kills 28 prisoners and 8 hostages. When the prison is retaken by guards, hundreds more prisoners and beaten and tortured.

1969-1972 Raids on Black Panther Party offices, assassination of leading Panthers, imprisonment of hundreds of others, FBI agents incitement of internal fratricidal struggle, resulting in destruction of the Black Panther Party. (Many prisoners from that time, such as Geronimo Pratt, are still in prison.)

1970 At a march of 30,000 Chicanos in Los Angeles, police kill famous Chicano journalist Ruben Salazar.

1973 Federal and State police and FBI launch a military assault on American Indian Movement activists and traditional Indians of the Lakota Nation at Wounded Knee. Leonard Peltier, AIM leader, is convicted on false charges of murdering an FBI agent and sentenced to two consecutive life sentences.

1976 Congress passes Hyde Amendment denying federal funds for abortions to poor women. Effect is that women of color denied right to control when they will have children.

Mid 1970's Right wing groups in California begin to use the initiative process effectively to get racist legislation approved. Most important is Proposition 13 which lovers tax rate on homes, thereby robbing cities of funding for schools, social services and infrastructure. People of color are

disproportionately effected.

The same forces get the California Death Penalty reinstated as effective law by recalling three liberal California Supreme Court judges. They also get the English Only initiative passed.

1978 In the famous Bakke case, the Supreme Court upholds the idea of affirmative action but rejects Univ. of California at Davis's program of racial quotas to implement affirmative action, thus effectively gutting affirmative action in higher education.

1980 Ronald Reagan elected to office on a clear ideological program appealing to white supremacist traditional values. Reagan popularizes racist code words (terms which do not mention color specifically but are designed to elicit negative images of different peoples of color) such as: "crime," "welfare," "drugs," "get government off our backs," and "stop unfairly taxing the 'little man.'" The ideological attack of the Reagan administration is backed up by a massive cutback in social services for poor people, and a government-sponsored redistribution of wealth to the rich.

1982 Unemployed auto workers in Detroit murder Vincent Chin, mistaking the young Chinese man for Japanese, and blaming Japanese for the loss of their jobs. Some unions which initiate the "Buy America" campaign target workers of color in other countries as ~~the~~ responsible for their economic plight, rather than U.S. multi-nationals who have taken their factories to Mexico, Taiwan and Korea.

Mid 1980's The Heritage Foundation organizes the National Association of Scholars and finances college campus right wing groups to wage an ideological attack on students and faculty struggling for curriculum more reflective of the histories and cultures of people of color; and of the hidden history of the United States. The right wing groups label such educational equality efforts as "Political Correctness." Noted historian Arthur Schlesinger and other "liberals" attack multi-culturalism and Afrocentrism as "divisive" perspectives in the American "melting pot" culture.

1990 Congress passes a comprehensive new immigration law which includes "employer sanctions" for knowingly hiring a worker without papers; and stepped up military patrol of the Rio Grande border. The law's effect is to discourage employers from accepting job applications from Asian Americans or Latinos, for fear they may have no papers. At the border, brutality against Latino border crossers becomes commonplace. Vigilante groups support INS patrols.

The Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR), based in California, uses the new law to expand its anti-immigrant campaign. A common theme is that immigrant labor takes away jobs from needy American workers. The campaign aggravates existing tensions among different communities of color, as well as increasing racist behavior by white workers.

1990 Bush initiates a war against Iraq which destroys the country's electricity, food and water supply, leaving over

100,000 civilians dead or dying in its wake. The war is accompanied by a massive anti-Arab propaganda campaign. In the U.S., supporters of Bush's policies murder one Arab American in California, vandalize hundreds of Arab American businesses, and send death threats to Arab American organizations. The FBI terrorizes Arab American citizens by targetting them for surveillance and questioning.

1991 As the U.S. economy worsens due to 50 years of government supported massive military budget, and the flight of U.S. corporations overseas to find cheaper labor; the government, corporations and labor unions blame Japan. By 1992, after Bush's famous dinner with Japanese corporate leadership, and his subsequent indigestion; the U.S. media begins the theme of the "Japanese invasion." Japanese-American communities and businesses are targetted as supporters of the "invasion."

1991 KKK leader David Duke wins 55% of the white vote in Louisiana (though massive Black turnout prevents his being elected governor) on a platform of turning in his white sheet for a blue suit, and utilizing racist code words. His supporters tell as CBC reporter that they are voting for Duke not because they believe he has changed, but because they know he hasn't!

1992 California's Governor Wilson initiates welfare "reform" legislation which would reduce poor families to homelessness and starvation. He calls the program a "budget balancing measure."

1992 In the wake of the Simi Valley verdict exonerating police violence against an African American man (Rodney King), people in Los Angeles take to the streets in rage. While the TV cameras focus on one incident in which young African American men beat up a young white man (without showing the other African American men who took the white man to the hospital); the police use the excuse of "mob looting" to murder 50 African American and Latino men (Of the 60+ deaths during the uprising, only about 10 are accounted for. The rest are called "death by unknown assailants.") These incidents of police violence are not on TV.

In the aftermath of military occupation of South Central, over 18,000 people are imprisoned; approximately 600 Latinos are deported without due process; the FBI goes house to house convincing neighbors to turn in neighbors; and poor mothers who can't produce a receipt for their Pampers are jailed as "looters."

Amidst all the proposals to rebuild LA, the media refuses to cover the proposal presented by the Crips and the Bloods: Give us the hammer and nails. We will rebuild the city. While the two once-rival gangs work to implement their truce, the LAPD concentrates on breaking up every meeting between the gangs, in an effort to rekindle gang violence.

1992 The Democratic Party restructures itself as the party of the white middle class (women and men), after clearly absorbing the lesson that since 1964, it has not won a majority of the white vote in any presidential election.

(to be continued)

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