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August 2019

## Ralph Bunche Awards Program, 2 July [1974]

Gerald R. Ford

Betty Ford

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### Recommended Citation

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*Vice President and Mrs. Gerald R. Ford*

*Honorary Chairpersons*

*and the*

*Community Friends*

*of*

*Community Relations Service*

*United States Department of Justice*

*cordially invite you to dinner in celebration of*

*The Agency's Tenth Anniversary*

*for the benefit of*

*The Ralph Bunche Awards Program*

*Tuesday, the second of July*

*seven o'clock*

*The Sheraton Park Hotel*

*Washington, D. C.*

*Principal Address*

*The Honorable Maynard Jackson*

*Master of Ceremonies*

*Ossie Davis*

*Black T*

Community Relations Service  
10th ANNIVERSARY BENEFIT DINNER COMMITTEE

Vice President and Mrs. Gerald R. Ford  
Honorary Chairpersons

Attorney General William B. Saxbe      Senator Edward W. Brooke  
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Mrs. Samuel J. Hazelett	Miss Marcia Smith
Mrs. Everette C. Hunt	Mrs. Eugene Tyson
Mrs. Stewart J. Johnson	Mrs. Harold H. Whitted

Miss Ernestine L. Williams

Community Relations Service  
Ben Holman  
Director

The Community Relations Service—commonly called CRS—was created in the Civil Rights Act of 1964, to help communities to resolve “disputes, disagreements, or difficulties relating to discrimination based on race, color, or national origin.” The agency does not enforce laws, regulate practices or grant funds for programs. It helps to settle racial conflicts and end discriminatory practices by persuading the parties involved to take the necessary voluntary action.

CRS is not restricted to concern with the provisions of any single civil rights statute. Its mandate extends to all conflicts stemming from discrimination based on race, color, or national origin which impairs persons’ rights “under the Constitution or laws of the United States.”

The agency works to resolve racial conflicts through both conciliation and mediation. In the CRS definition, *conciliation* means performing a variety of steps to help move the parties involved to a peaceful settlement—for example, opening up communication between them, providing pertinent facts and information, suggesting alternatives, and helping identify sources of specialized or technical assistance. *Mediation* refers to the formal process of setting up and moderating negotiations between disputing parties to try and reach a mutually satisfactory settlement to a conflict through a written agreement.

CRS carries out its conflict-settling function working directly in communities with the parties involved, a task which is obviously not very abstract. Its effectiveness depends on the ability of its professional staff—frequently under extremely difficult circumstances—to persuade

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people in communities to cooperate with each other, to take an honest look at their problems, and to work earnestly to put an end to discriminatory practices. To do this job, CRS maintains a staff of skilled Conciliators and Mediators who are widely experienced in race relations and intergroup relations, and such fields as education, law, social work, and police-minority relations.

CRS may offer its assistance whenever in its judgment the peaceful relations among the citizens of a community are threatened, and it may do so on its own motion or at the request of local or State officials or other interested persons.

### The Ralph Bunche Awards Program

Francis M. Lee

Director

The Ralph Bunche Awards Program is the first national program designed to actively seek out and increase the number of black Americans in the decision-making process of international affairs. It was created as a memorial to the work of the late Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations, Ralph J. Bunche—an educator, scholar, diplomat, peacemaker and Nobel prize winner.

A multi-level approach, the Ralph Bunche program grants Fellowships for a year of independent study, holds seminars, and informs the community of relevant issues in the international arena. Participants in the Ralph Bunche Awards Program are expected to carry to positions of responsibility in all fields a commitment to renewal, to change and to humanize the American role in our world. It is a program of the United Nations Association of the United States of America which is organized to stimulate constructive interest in, and support for the ideals embodied in the Charter of the U. N.