

Aaron Henry in action at the 1964 Democratic Convention. The Michigan delegation was seated near that of Mississippi, and we witnessed his valiant efforts with Fannie Lou Hamer and others to end segregation in the Democratic Party of his home State.

He failed then, but never lost hope. A few years later I saw that first hand when I spent a week with Aaron Henry and his coworkers in Clarksdale in a project—the Mississippi-Michigan Alliance—which he and I had set up to obtain help in efforts to register voters in his hometown. It was a grassroot endeavor, succeeding in registering hundreds of new voters though failing to break down other barriers. There was an election held while I was there and I remember visiting one precinct where there were no minority voters and a minority candidate for the State legislature did not receive a single vote from that particular precinct. I had never before visited a precinct in a contested election where a unanimous vote had been cast for one of the candidates, whatever the nature of the contest.

But though personally involved in the election, Aaron Henry refused to give up or lose hope. Indeed, one reason he was such a great American was because he believed America's greatness would ultimately lead to the realization of the dreams of all of its people. So I left Clarksdale a few pounds heavier from all of the ice cream consumed at the old-fashioned soda fountain in his Fourth Street Pharmacy but also many degrees uplifted by the spirit and determination of Aaron Henry. As we met and talked now and then over the years, none of this ever ebbed.

Aaron Henry's death will be deeply mourned by the many of us privileged to be his friend and blessed by his example of fighting hard, with good will. Hopefully, his native State will mourn him across its cities and farms. He was born in its rural land, toiled in one of its important towns and journeyed it throughout, from border to border. His legacy is his hopefulness. The task now of his beloved State, of his beloved Nation and of all of us who loved him is to keep his faith and continue his battle.

TRIBUTE TO SGT. JOEL R. PRICE

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 1997

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor for me today to rise and pay tribute to police officer, Joel R. Price, who has dedicated the last 20 years to serving our community and helping others. This esteemed officer and citizen truly embodies exceptional qualities of duty, sacrifice, and dedication, making him a model for fellow officers and the people of Los Angeles. For these reasons, Joel R. Price is being honored by the Reseda Chamber of Commerce as the 1997 Police Officer of the Year.

This award was achieved by Joel's long, distinguished career which he began by serving our community in 1977 as a station officer for the city of Los Angeles. His commitment and hard work quickly found an even higher calling after he graduated from the Police Academy and began working in the southwest and Van Nuys areas as a detective. His perseverance and distinguished service enabled

him to rise quickly through the ranks. Joel put in long hours as a detective where his reputation as a dedicated and skilled member of the force were quickly recognized.

Additionally, Joel patrolled Los Angeles during the 1984 Olympic games to ensure the safety of the participants. Thanks to people like Joel the games were a success.

An important aspect of our community is bridging racial gaps. Through his bilingual abilities, Joel has reached out to the Spanish-speaking community to ensure all Americans have an equal voice.

Joel remains ever vigilant in trying to help the youth in our community. He has worked extensively on antigang task forces to bring those who have committed crimes to justice and sought to provide a positive role for those young people at risk everyday.

Here Sergeant Price's activities transcend mere prevention. He has provided our young people in California an alternative to the violence which plagues our streets. Joel has also been a role model to the community, devoting countless hours to the Police Athletic League and the West Valley youth Center. Additionally, Joel took it upon himself to help the less fortunate during the holidays by collecting food during Thanksgiving and toys during the Christmas season for the police department's giveaway.

I am proud to honor Joel R. Price as Police Officer of the Year and thank him for his outstanding contributions both on the force and to our community.

TRIBUTE TO BOB LENT

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 1997

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I take great pride in rising today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Bob Lent, UAW Region 1 director, who will be honored by UAW Local 909 on June 29, 1997.

Through the years, Bob Lent has been a fighter. His tireless efforts have improved the lives of the working families throughout southeastern Michigan. Bob is a man who has dedicated his life to securing dignity and respect for all people. He has been a champion of civil rights and civil liberties, and has helped create a stronger, more united community.

In 1949, Bob Lent began a career with the UAW that has spanned 48 years. He started as a spray painter at the Dodge main plant of Local 3 in Hamtramck, MI. After serving his country as an Army paratrooper from 1951 to 1953, Bob returned to Michigan to become a millwright apprentice and a skilled tradesman at the Chrysler 9-Mile Road Press Plant, Local 869.

While at UAW Local 869, Bob's strong leadership and vision were recognized and he was chosen by his colleagues to serve in a distinguished list of appointed and elected positions. He was an alternate chief steward, trustee chairman, vice president, president, education representative, and assistant director. His vast knowledge and experience made him a logical choice for director.

Bob was first elected to the UAW executive board as a regional director at the UAW's 27th Constitutional Convention in May 1983, at Dal-

las, TX. After his re-election to a third term, Bob was elected director of UAW Region 1 which covers Detroit's East Side, Pontiac, Macomb, and St. Clair Counties and part of the "Thumb" area of southeastern Michigan, and including Canada.

Bob is not only an active union leader, but a community leader as well. He served on the labor advisory committee at both Oakland and Wayne State University. He has been a Democratic precinct delegate. He is a lifetime member of the NAACP. He also serves on the board of directors of the United Way of Pontiac-Oakland County and Detroit Area United Foundation.

Few people have given to their community with the vision and commitment that Bob Lent has given to his. He is a person who has inspired the admiration of many. I am honored to call him a friend. I want to congratulate Bob on his very distinguished career and I wish him and his family all of the best.

A TRIBUTE TO REV. FREDERICK EID: 50 YEARS OF SERVICE AS A MISSIONARY OF CHANGE

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 1997

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a truly exceptional gentleman, Rev. Frederick Eid, on the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. This momentous occasion will be recognized during a mass to be celebrated on May 31, 1997 at Our Lady of Grace Church in Hoboken, NJ.

The story of Father Eid began 80 years ago on May 23, 1917, in my hometown of Union City, NJ. It was here that his desire to educate others was born. He was educated at local Catholic schools and subsequently attended Seton Hall University, after which he entered Holy Name Seminary. Father Eid was joyfully ordained into the priesthood on May 31, 1947.

Father Eid began his life's journey of service to others while on a mission to Latin America. He started out in Mexico and traveled to El Salvador and Honduras, where he ministered to the local communities. Father Eid gained his deep appreciation of Hispanic culture and learned to speak Spanish. Upon his return to the United States, Father Eid expanded his focus with both an African-American mission in Essex County and St. Mary's Parish in Jersey City.

The lives of the residents of Hoboken took a fortunate turn with Father Eid's arrival at Our Lady of Grace Church in December 1968. During his tenure at Our Lady of Grace Church, Father Eid has become a member of many families in the area. He has had a special affinity for those less fortunate than himself. Father Eid has worked tirelessly with the local court system, and the Division of Youth and Family Services in particular, to care for the needs of the children in the area. Additionally, Father Eid serves as chaplain to those charged with protecting and saving lives: the Hoboken Ambulance, Police, and Fire Departments.

It is an honor to have such a caring and dedicated individual work on behalf of the residents of my district. Father Frederick Eid's extraordinary efforts will be remembered for