

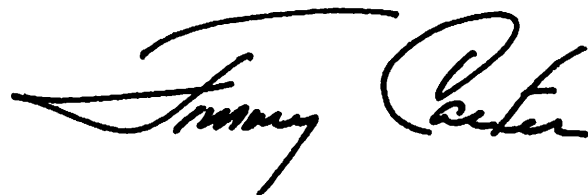
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

National Afro-American (Black) History Month
February 1979

For over sixty years the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History has been guided by the belief that history is a torch for the future. It is most appropriate that you have selected this time-tested belief as the theme of your 1979 Afro-American (Black) History Month observance.

Founded by Carter G. Woodson, your organization has successfully chronicled the achievements of black Americans and their pivotal role in the establishment, development and progress of American life. This annual celebration highlights the contributions of black people and gives all of us a keener appreciation of the rich and diverse heritage we share.

I welcome the opportunity to call upon communities throughout our country to participate in this worthwhile broadening of our knowledge. May the programs and activities planned for this month encourage many citizens to expand the search for their own ethnic roots. And may they bring about a period of introspection and heightened national consciousness that will lead to greater participation by all in the workings of our democratic society and in our dream for its future.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jimmy Carter". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned in the lower right quadrant of the page.