

THE MAKING OF A BLACK PRESIDENT

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PREPARATION, PRECEDENT & PREFACE: BLACKS AND THE WHITE HOUSE



- The presence of Booker T. Washington dining in the White House with President Theodore Roosevelt in 1901 elicited a torrent of denunciation especially from southern white newspapers. This display of black and white “social equality,” some believed, undermined racial hierarchy in American society.

BLACK PRESIDENTIAL CONTENDERS IN THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY



- Shirley Chisholm, a U.S. Representative from New York, vied for the presidential nomination in 1972. Jesse Jackson, a protégé of civil rights leader, Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., galvanized black voters to support his nomination in 1984 and 1988.

THE GOP ENVISAGED A COLIN POWELL PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY IN 1996



- General Colin Powell, National Security Adviser to President Ronald Reagan and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff during the presidency of George H. W. Bush, was promoted to run as the GOP standard bearer in 1996.

THE PRESCIENCE OF “DOUGLAS DILMAN”



- The novel, THE MAN, published in 1964 by Irving Wallace, portrayed Douglas Dilman, a black New Hampshire senator and former professor. He ascended to the presidency through the constitutional line of succession.

DILEMMAS OF DOUGLAS DILMAN



- In THE MAN, the movie released in 1972, tackled Douglas Dilman's dilemmas in reconciling his blackness to his presidency. In an international crisis, he seemed compelled to extradict to the white racist government of South Africa a black protester who deployed violence against that nation's brutal apartheid system.

THE MAKING OF BARACK OBAMA



- Barack Obama, Sr. and Stanley Ann Dunham (Kenya and Kansas)
- Reared by maternal grandparents in Hawaii
- Barack Obama's dual and interactive encounter between the reality of blackness and the discovery of blackness