

# VIP Chairman Fraser pays tribute to VI Political stalwarts

## -Hon Julian Fraser reminds the Territory that the Virgin Islands Party built this country

November 15th, 2014 |



Hon Julian Fraser RA called late Chief Minister H. Lavity Stoutt (left) and former Premier Hon Ralph T. O'Neal OBE (R9) giants for lifting the Virgin Islands from the idea of being a bird sanctuary.

**ROAD TOWN, Tortola, VI - In keeping with the Virgin Islands Party (VIP) tradition of honouring its people and recognizing the hard work of all who have made significant contributions to building the Virgin Islands, Chairman of the VIP Honourable Julian Fraser RA, (R3) publicly paid homage to other great leaders.**

The VIP Boss was at the time making a National Address to the Territory on November 12, 2014 in which he outlined a vision of hope, and solutions while pointing out how the ruling National Democratic Party (NDP) regime had destroyed the Virgin Islands (VI) in three short years.

Others helped build the VI -Hon Fraser

Hon Fraser told the public that "while history will confirm that the VIP built this country, we cannot forget the contributions of other great leaders such as: late Chief Minister Willard Wheatley - who took the Territory out of Grant-in-Aid; late Chief Minister Cyril B. Romney - father of our Financial Services Sector; and Conrad A. Maduro - for a working labour policy through his Labour Code".

However, according to the VIP Leader "unfortunately, within three short years the NDP has managed to destroy that rich legacy built by these great leaders."



Hon Julian Fraser RA (R3) recognised the contributions of late Chief Minister Willard Wheatley - who took the Territory out of Grant-in-Aid (at right); and late Chief Minister Cyril B. Romney (left) - father of our Financial Services Sector.



The Chairman of the VIP Hon Julian Fraser RA (right) also singled out for praise Conrad A. Maduro (left) for a working labour policy through his Labour Code.

Many residents and historians have been critical of the NDP for not recognizing the contributions of others who have come before them and done a lot for the Virgin Islands. They claim for example, that the controversial Education Minister Honourable Myron V. Walwyn has acted like nothing happened in the Ministry of Education and Culture until he got there in 2011 and has created a culture of disrespect for our forefathers.

#### Stoutt & O'Neal giants

In paying tribute to those who have made their contributions not only to the VIP but the entire British Overseas Territory Hon Fraser said, "Our late Chief Minister and party founder Hamilton Lavity Stoutt, and the immediate past Chairman and Leader of the Opposition Hon. Ralph T. O'Neal OBE (R9), were both giants of these Virgin Islands."

Hon Fraser now the third Chairman of the VIP continued in his national address that "they lifted this Territory from the idea of being a bird sanctuary -- to new frontiers of education, offering scholarships to Virgin Islanders, and building a modern society".

"Despite being common knowledge, at times it serves as a useful reminder to note, that the VIP started all major infrastructure developments in this country," Hon Fraser said.

And these include: roads, schools, airports, bridges, potable water, clinics, electricity, ports development, telecommunications, financial services, community centers, progressive legislations, and tourism thereby, lifting our people to affluence and prosperity and creating a harmonious society, according to Hon Fraser.

Former first lady Rev O'Neal was there!

In paying homage to the first Premier of the VI, Party Chairman Hon Fraser said, "I join the Territory in paying tribute to Hon. O'Neal for his invaluable contributions to the development of these Islands, and would also like to recognize his wife: Rev Edris O'Neal, for her unwavering support over his many years of service."

VIP history & legacy of recognizing our people

The 42 year old Virgin Islands Party has a solid history of honoring the people of the VI by naming important land marks off them.

It was the VIP that named the H. Lavity Stoutt Community College in Pariquita Bay, the Roger Allen Hodge Park in Sea Cow's Bay, the Noel Lloyd Positive Action Movement Park in Road Town, Ellis Thomas Downs in Sea Cow's Bay, the Terrance B. Lettsome International Airport in Beef Island, all schools after education stalwarts from Bregardo Flax Educational Centre on Virgin Gorda to Alexandrina Maduro, Enis Adams, Ebenezer Thomas, Enid Scatliffe and Francis Lettsome on Tortola.