

BLACKING UP

After California Lieutenant Governor Cruz Bustamante's "slip" during a 2001 Black History Month keynote sponsored by and addressed to African-American trade unionists

nuh-uh! Ntreaty Ndeed.
ego. suddenly negre is called
negashi. negroid nubian no
needed naphtha burn. light it
enyay enyay ixnay this face this way
negrita Ndurable. no pal nopales. Negus
elected public official bi lingual slurring not
duty. this Negroid nimbus. Negast not
aghast. Ndirect negligee suspicious Negro. Ndit
endash. Ntrust neige legere negates Ethiopiates.
samo. Ngugi Senegal Ndangered Negretic. m-m-
Ndelible degradation. Nkrumah Nferred. ignoble
sugar gun nutmeg negus. sputtering sweetly. ¡Mira! en mi casa cariña nobody knows which is the
true character which the mask. Negrillo Ncounter. natal Negress, Ndigenous native. Ñ Ñ
oye jumbe. aghast Negast. nimble lingo blazing silencio a tu gente. mukarib carob Carib.
Ngulf corking Nsult egun burning. bow to these Nfallible gradations. the fashionable
singlets brown skirting the issue. Redress? picnic knicknack. knee grows most
high. we must now Nsure Nrgetic & immutable Ndigo Negritude. no go
Nago. ___'n ___. Negotiate this significant misstep. garnish historical egest.
tarnish cogito renege calling so nyet nyet Ncognito. gnawing crow. conoco
Ngrown. this face is called Ncumbered. either Njured or Ndignant. ra-
ra-raza. Ndigent ama Igorot apa. Ndure dozens. nekkid troof. Nduce
Nable. not national news. Nnocent segue. neigh nay to nugatory
overture. Ngratiate pardon Nvitro negritos. egregious evocation of
base Nner idiom. not no "understandable" egress, ese,
reNforcing supreme ballasts. omni omni Negus Neghast.