

U.S. must cut ties with South Africa

Louis Le Grange, South Africa's Minister of Law and Order, has declared that the "state authority will not tolerate any violence, whatever the reasons, whatever the circumstances." Le Grange's announcement was made after a police confrontation with blacks at the Crossroads squatters' camp outside of Cape Town. The result: 16 blacks killed and 231 wounded when police open-fired with shotguns, rubber bullets, and tear gas on unarmed demonstrators. Apparently, what Le Grange meant was that the government wouldn't tolerate any violence towards whites. Blacks, however, continue to be fair game, as the number of those wounded and killed at Crossroads indicates.

The Crossroads incident, which started when blacks protested government plans to remove them from a "white only area" and relocate them in a "black area," is just one example of recent events in South Africa. During the last two weeks, 15 prominent black anti-apartheid leaders were arrested and charged with treason, meaning possible execution. Other recent events include: the killing of two women and the wounding of others when police clashed with demonstrators protesting rent hikes in Soweto; the arrest of black miners on strike near Johannesburg; the start of a nationwide crackdown on anti-apartheid groups, including police raids on the offices of the Transvaal Indian Congress, the Natal Indian Congress, the Federation of South African Women, and the Media and Research Committee.

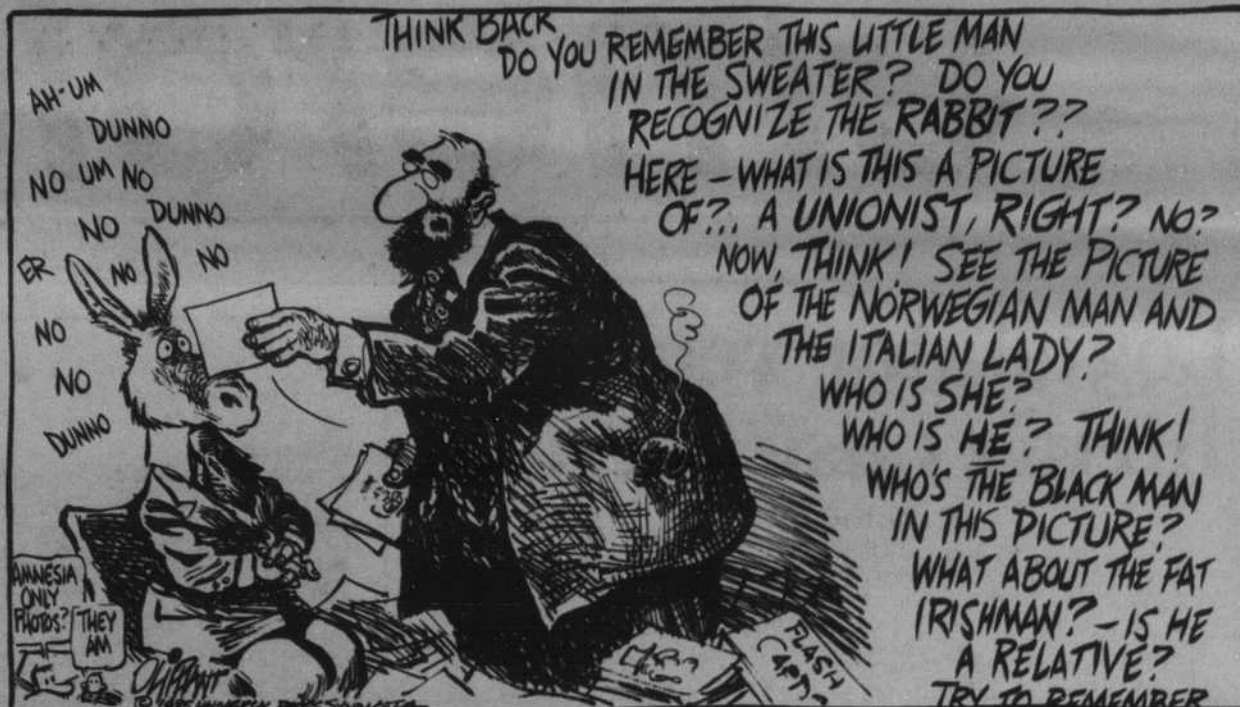
Why should United States citizens be concerned with these events? Because U.S. businesses have \$2.3 billion of investments in South Africa. In the words of Bishop Desmond Tutu, 1984 Nobel Peace Prize recipient, "U.S. corporations have benefitted from black misery. They have benefitted from cheap black labor. They have benefitted from the whole system of apartheid."

It's time for Americans to realize that President Ronald Reagan's policy of "constructive engagement" with South Africa translates into a "destructive engagement" for the black majority of that country. South African jails are filled with black political prisoners where, according to Amnesty International, "Torture is almost routine." In the streets, unarmed black protesters are shot, beaten, and killed by police. Why this violence? Because blacks insist on the right to vote in the land of their birth, they insist on equal opportunity in the work place, and they insist on equal rights in a land where the concept of racial superiority rules.

During his weekly radio broadcast, Reagan declared that it has been America's tradition to help others throughout the world in breaking the chains of oppression. But in South Africa, America is failing in its duty. We continue to be military allies with the only country since Nazi Germany to officially practice racial supremacy. We are economic allies with a country that denies 25 million people the democratic right to vote. Most Americans think with pride about how our country fought against fascism during World War II. But today, we are friends with fascism, we officially embrace it in South Africa, and our president criticizes those people who have demanded that we terminate this friendship.

It is in the hands of the South African people, both black and white, to decide their future. But it is in our hands to decide whether or not we will give military and economic aid to a government which officially denies "that all men are created equal."

Fight apartheid! Write your legislators and support the Oregon divestment bill (HB 2001). Furthermore, join the boycott of the South African-made film, "The Gods Must Be Crazy," soon to be shown at the Bijou theater.



letters

Those words

It's rather unpleasant claimin' duplicate names when one dupe's bellerin' out.

Whither y' bury yer 'ead or reap from 'is fame folk 'll always be askin'.

"Was it you...?" and sore or sweet 's perhaps it be. y' gotta live wid' those words that 'e spoke.

Brion Moore
Music/Norwegian

No proof

John Trever (ODE, Feb. 15) may be an interesting, controversial speaker, but he is a lousy theologian. The book of Daniel was not written in 165 B.C. but in the sixth century B.C.

The testimony of the book itself, the evidence in Ezekiel, and the support of Christ all lend credence to 6th century authorship. The Aramaic of Daniel agrees in almost every particular of orthography, etymology, and syntax with the Aramaic of the North Semitic inscriptions of the 7th, 8th, and 9th century B.C. Daniel's vocabulary is similar to other 5th century papyri. It would have been very unusual for a writer of the 2nd century B.C. to have had the intimate knowledge of Babylonian history presented in the text. Actually, there are no proven historical inaccuracies in the book. In fact, no one questioned the historicity until the 17th century — 2000 years after the book was written.

A common reason for rejecting Daniel among liberal theologians is that they deny all prophecy and miracles. "He couldn't have foretold the future!" Why? "Because I don't believe it's possible." Just because one chooses not to believe something doesn't preclude it from being true. The problem of interpretation of Daniel's prophecy does not in itself invalidate the genuineness of the book unless it can be demonstrated that the prophecy is inaccurate. No one has been able to prove this.

Rev. Jerry MacGregor
Graduate, DEPM

Barbaric?

Oregon now has a death penalty, but the manner of execution (lethal injection) doesn't go far enough. I have, let's say, a modest proposal for doing away with these inconveniences to society.

None of this hanging, firing squad, or beheading stuff is justifiable because murderers don't deserve such quick, relatively painless compassion. I'd prefer that we tie these suckers up and lower them into tubs of corrosive chemicals. No, not powerful acid (too quick) but something that will take 'em a while to die in.

These chemicals should take several hours to completely burn the prisoner's skin off. But make sure the tub is deep enough so that during the prisoner's struggle, he'll ingest some of the chemicals. This will insure that his lungs and throat will receive intensive burns. If, after a few hours, the subject is still alive and didn't die of shock or toxemia, then pull him out and leave his burned-up body exposed. After a while he'll die of hypothermia; if not, throw him into an incinerator or use some other method to finish him off.

Cruel you say? Unconstitutional? Barbaric? Hardly. The Supreme Court says it's allowable to kill a baby after the second trimester with a procedure identical to the proposal I've mentioned, except instead of a tub of acid the baby is burned up with a saline solution while it's still in the womb.

If such a practice is good enough to inflict on an innocent baby, then it's good enough to use on murderers.

Michael Cross
History/Political Science

Nice work?

Ya know, I'm gettin' kinda tired of all this "women" crap.

I'm the kind of guy who likes to open doors for women, walk on the traffic side when crossing a one-way intersection, even send a rose for no apparent reason. I'm the kind of guy, too, who will let a woman buy me a night on the town if that's what she wants to do. She'll know that I'll even the score.

I'm even the kind of guy who picks up a Playboy magazine once in a while. And ya know, I even look at the pictures. I think women are beautiful, and I'll bet that there are a few women who think men are beautiful. Big deal.

I've heard of a group on campus, Women's Referral and Resource Service, with some Romano chick I think. Until today, I half respected some of her actions. However, Women's Referral has pushed me too far.

If I had accompanied a juvenile through the EMU on Tuesday, I would have been very, very uncomfortable about being a University student and having to explain to a six-year-old girl exactly why the crowd of people gathered around a display case flaunting definitions of pornography ... graphic definitions.

Women's Referral, I wouldn't let you lick the sweat off my feet if you were dying of thirst. Think about what you do, don't do what you think. You say drama will get attention. Well, it got mine. It brought me just the attention I need to completely disregard anything I see or hear from Women's Referral. Nice work ladies.

Vince Adams
English

Letters Policy

The Emerald will attempt to print all letters containing fair comment on topics of interest to the University community.

Letters to the editor must be limited to 250 words, typed, signed and the identification of the writer must be verified when the letter is turned in. The Emerald reserves the right to edit any letter for length or style. Letters to the editor should be turned into the Emerald office, Suite 300 EMU.

Friday, February 22, 1985

oregon daily emerald

The Oregon Daily Emerald is published Monday through Friday except during exam week and vacations by the Oregon Daily Emerald Publishing Co., at the University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon, 97403.

The Emerald operates independently of the University with offices on the third floor of the Erb Memorial Union and is a member of the Associated Press.

General Staff

Advertising Director: Susan Thelen
Production Manager: Russell Steele
Classified Advertising Controller: Vince Adams
Jean Ownbey

Advertising Sales: Laura Buckley, Tim Clevenger, Jennifer Fox, Marcia Leonard, Rick Martz, Nancy Nielsen, Laurie Nobel, Roberta Oliver, Brett Pickman - Intern, David Wood.

Production: Kelly Cornyn, Stormi Dykes, Julie Freeman, Kathy Gallagher, Dean Guernsey, Susan Hawkins, Rob Kraft, Ross Martin, Karin McKecher, Lauri Neely, Kelly Neff, Kara Oberst, Curt Penrod, Michele Ross, Alyson Simmons, Peg Solonika, Tim Swillinger, Colleen Tremaine, Hank Trotter.

Editor: Michele Matassa
Managing Editor: Mike Sims
News Editor: Michael Kulaga
Editorial Page Editor: Costas Christ
Photo Editor: Michael Clapp
Sports Editor: Brent De La Paz
Sidelines Editor: Sheila Landry
Friday Edition Editor: Kim Carlson
Entertainment Editor: Michael Duncan
Night Editor: Julie Shippen

Associate Editors
Administration: Jolayne Houtz
Higher Education: Michael Hosmar
Politics: Paul Ertelt
ASUO: Julie Shippen
Student Activities: Diana Elliott
Community: Cynthia Whitfield
Features: Lori Steinhauer

Reporters: Sean Axmaker, Dave Berns, Kirsten Bolin, Michelle Brence, Dave Carlson, Robert Collias, Thomas Henderson, Robin Joannides, Allan Lazo, Capi Lynn, Scott McFetridge, Stasia Scarborough.

News and Editorial: 686-5511
Display Advertising and Business: 686-3712
Classified Advertising: 686-4343
Production: 686-4381
Circulation: 686-5511