

Bombing of Serbs just the first swat

When a child is behaving badly — say, bullying a playmate — a concerned parent will often give the offending child a swat on the behind. If that doesn't work, the swats get harder and harder, eventually evolving into a full-blown spanking.

In Bosnia-Herzegovina this week, a similar drama is being played out ... but on a much more somber scale. The offenses are much more serious than in a playground tussle. The combatants are most certainly *not* children — although many of their victims are. And those parental swats — with their unmistakable message of "stop" — well, those swats are bombs.

As serious as that sounds, however, the bombings are still in that early stage: the lightest of swats. The recent attacks by NATO aircraft on Serbian positions around Gorazde, a Muslim enclave 35 miles southeast of Sarajevo, have been about as tame as air strikes can be. According to a United Nations report of the past few days' events, the first attack against the Serbs, conducted on Sunday, consisted of only three "dumb" bombs (bombs without guidance systems) dropped at a command post of tents and trucks. The second strike, which took place the following day, was a strafing and bombing run of a Serbian artillery column, which reportedly destroyed three armored vehicles and a truck.

Serbian shelling of Gorazde finally halted at 4 p.m. local time on Monday, in response to NATO threats that a third attack would follow if the artillery fire did not stop. But the Serbs went on the offensive again on Wednesday, detaining U.N. military observers and launching rockets into the Bosnian capital of Sarajevo.

In carrying out its air strikes, NATO has assumed the role of the disciplining parent. By continuing to defy the United Nations' demands for an end to hostilities, the Serbs have effectively ignored NATO's swats. So where does the peace-keeping mission in Bosnia go from here?

In the child-parent model, the next step is a harder swat. That is not an attractive option for anyone, except perhaps for the Muslims taking refuge in Gorazde, who understandably are crying for any action that would put an end to the violence. But even they would agree that more bloodshed is not in anyone's best interests.

Some strategists are already second-guessing the decision to bomb the Serbians with so little emphasis. They argue that NATO's restrained attacks have given the Serbians the wrong impression about NATO's capabilities and, more importantly, its determination.

But the damage (slight as it was) has already been done. If the point of the attacks was to show that NATO and the United Nations mean business, then another swat, this one a little harder, will have to take place.

Of course, diplomatic efforts should continue. If a truce and lasting peace can be reached through diplomatic means, then they should receive every attention. But the Serbian attacks on Gorazde — and on other embattled towns in Bosnia — simply must stop.

And a spanking may be the only way to make that happen.



COMMENTARY

Stop apathy and earn student respect

By Shannon Varney and Joey Lyons

Okay, first for those students who really don't care much about the elections, read this. The lighter side of our campaign is to bring a pub/brewery to the EMU, provide free coffee at Oregon Hall during the first two days of each term (paid for by fundraising), keep the EMU open 24 hours during finals week, push for longer library hours, and open up more non-workstudy jobs on campus.

Apathy. It's an ugly word, and one that we've heard before most commonly in reference to ourselves. Everyday, we are bombarded with messages to stop being such sloths and to get active in the campus community (join the Star Trek Club, be in a band, have a beer). However, this is difficult because of the exclusive and elitist nature that we see in leadership on campus. Students don't feel a part of the events that take place at the University, and this is an underlying reason for the actions of the student government being reduced to humorous dinner table conversation. It's time that the barriers that exist between us and the government are removed, and the ASUO is made a voice for all students.

The ASUO needs to earn the respect of the campus by maintaining a high level of integrity, responsibility and inclusiveness. The ASUO Executive needs to reaffirm its commitment to the student body by establishing and maintaining contact with organizations and groups on campus. No longer

can ASUO officials appear in front of groups once, asking for their vote, and then never come back. The ASUO needs to be made accessible for student concerns and ideas, and also must provide a receptive environment for facilitating action.

Both of us are outsiders, and we have never worked in Oregon Hall or as bureaucrats with the ASUO Executive. We have worked with the people as our equals, and we are in touch with the apathetic majority (most of our friends are that way). But on the other hand, we have experience with the ASUO. Joey is a member of the Incidental Fee Committee, and has worked in the Oregon Legislature and with the governance restructuring. Shannon is Chapter Chair of OSPIRG and on the EMU Board. We are not part of the inner ASUO staff circle of people who think only they know how to run student government. We are just students who want to work with students.

It is the ASUO's responsibility, as the most visible group on campus, to provide the vehicle and incentive to get each and every one of you to do something you care about. Involvement on campus doesn't mean a lifetime commitment, it just means that you are enhancing your future learning skills and helping others now.

The ASUO needs to take action. Forming coalitions with campus organizations to bring high profile events to campus is the ideal way to involve student groups to raise student awareness on issues such as HIV/AIDS, safety and racism.

We will establish bonds with the Eugene police department and the City Council to make students feel a part of the Eugene community as well as a part of the campus community.

Also, we plan to facilitate internal communication with new student leaders so the government will function more smoothly and with less internal conflict. Our knowledge of the new constitution will allow us to make the transition easier for them, and we can provide a valuable resource for questions that they might have.

Finally, we plan on making a strong showing in Salem for the 1995 Legislative session. The State of Oregon needs to cut \$1.2 billion from its budget, and the majority of that will be taken from higher education. We, as students, cannot allow the quality of our education to fall any further. The state will be looking to increase tuition, especially out-of-state tuition, and we must have experienced student leaders to lobby and negotiate with the legislators. It is our futures that are being dealt with so candidly, and we need to be there when the decisions are made. Tuition should not be raised, and departments cannot sustain any more cuts. We are a vital part of the dialogue that will be taking place in Salem next year.

Every year we elect another ASUO staffer to be president and vice president. It's time for a change. Vote Varney/Lyons.

Shannon Varney and Joey Lyons are candidates for ASUO president and vice president, respectively.

LETTERS

Bad ad

At least one of your classified advertisements is deceptive. It seemed to promise well-paying positions to teach English in South Korea. I am a retired professor and have visited South Korea twice.

I called the telephone number, which is a Washington exchange, probably in Seattle. The (J) 6069 extension invited a prepared script. It was a sales pitch to order a list of companies that would be likely employers. The charge was \$39.95 for the list which was to be sent COD to the caller and was

to be paid by credit card. There was no company name, only a post office number. Students should be forewarned.

I add a comment about the Singapore justice system: Each time we made port in Singapore, statements in the daily Plan of the Day warned all hands against breaking any local laws. Thousands of U.S. sailors enjoyed liberty without incident.

At that time, we were told that the damage of the first blow of the rattan was allowed to heal before the next was laid.

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Eugene

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