



How to Survive the **Holiday Interrogation**

By Kassia Dellabough

The holidays are upon us once you're going to do after college. Such uncomplicated questions are meant to inspire pleasant, good-humored conversation.

out in a cold sweat?

Right there, in the middle of an is going to ask what sort of job you can get with a Sociology major these days. Then Cousin Lou will want to know how, exactly, you're planning to pay off those student loans without any income. In a moment, an innocuous family gathering could explode into full-fledged career interrogation. And you thought finals week was stressful.

The UO Career Center can help again and most students are look- you navigate this holiday gaunting forward to a few weeks of let. Your family and friends want rest and relaxation over the winter to know about your future plans, break. You'll have time to sleep in, and we can help you make some. reacquaint yourself with balanced Graduation might seem a long way meals, and even spend quality time off, but winter term is the perfect with family and friends. Everyone time to start lining up interviews will want to know what you've or cultivating a summer internship. been up to at school—and what Throughout December, the Career Center offers drop-in career counseling from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Our counselors can help you identify a major So how come you're breaking you'll love, research internships, take career assessments, or formulate a job-search plan. We can help otherwise lovely meal, Aunt Jeanne you find all the answers you'll need, just in time for the holidays.

> Call 346-3235 to set up a personalized appointment today, or stop by the Career Center offices on the second floor of Hendricks Hall.

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■ Tsunami recovery

New road commemorates U.S. goodwill in Indonesia

LAMPUUK, Indonesia - There aren't many places in the Islamic world these days where they name streets after American presidents, past or present. But through the tsunami-devastated heart of this village, embedded in a highly conservative Muslim society, runs George Bush Bill Clinton Road.

'We are one big family and those who help us are our brothers. So Americans are our brothers. They are in our hearts," says Hasballah Ahba, looking out from atop the village mosque over his birthplace that the giant wave obliterated and U.S. aid is bringing back to life.

Just days after the tsunami struck on Dec. 26, U.S. military helicopters launched from an offshore flotilla rushed in food, water and medicine to desperate people stranded along the Aceh coast of this Indonesian island, saving thousands of lives. Since then, the U.S. government and the American private sector have committed some \$1.6 billion to resurrect communities like Lampuuk.

Ten months later, the helicopters were back in the sky, along with an Army field hospital and construction battalion, when an earthquake ravaged Muslim-dominated Kashmir, and the reactions of some victims to the Americans echoed those heard in Indonesia.

When they do something against Muslims, we condemn them. Now as they are helping us, we should appreciate them," said Yar Mohammad, a farmer in Muzaffarabad, the ruined capital of Pakistan's portion of the divided Himalayan region.

Washington needs the hitherto effective support of both these countries in its counterterrorism campaign, especially from Pakistan where leaders of the al-Qaida network are believed to be hiding.

But it's questionable how far the words of Hasballah and Mohammad reverberate from the savaged shores of Aceh and the wasted mountainsides of Pakistan into the wider Muslim world. Even in communities of the two countries being fed, housed or nursed through American aid, suspicions of Washington's motives and abhorrence of its policies in Iraq, Palestine and elsewhere persist.

'The positive impression the U.S. is trying to make through humanitarian aid may have paid some small dividend, but I wouldn't overstate the ability of these kinds of gestures to counter what is a very strong anti-American current which is directly connected to U.S. policy," says Jeffrey Winters, a political scientist at Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill.

Analysts also note that while Pakistan and Indonesia have nearly 30 percent of the world's 1.3 billion Muslims, neither country is at the heart of the Islamic world, and within these two countries both Aceh and Kashmir are out of the national mainstreams.

Thus American aid to Aceh, Winters says, carries a limited amount of payoff since many Indonesians regard it as a "pariah province" that had fought a war for independence from the central government.

Within Aceh, where the tsunami killed more than 130,000 people, even neighbors may differ drastically about the United States.

In Teungoh Blang Me, where only 100 of the 700 villagers survived the tsunami, many gratefully remembered American helicopter crews

dispensing sardines, instant noodles and water after they had gone hungry for three days.

We're thankful to Americans for coming from so far away. We don't care about American policies as long as they come to help," said Fauzi Ali, a 49-year-old schoolteacher whose leg and both arms were broken when his house collapsed under the wave. He was certain to lose his infected limbs until a U.S. helicopter whisked him to a hospital and full recovery.

The tsunami razed everything but the mosque and killed 80 percent of its 6,500 inhabitants. Revival began after Clinton and Bush, father of the current president, visited in February.

Still on a long list of restoration plans is the planting of tamarind and casuarina trees along a street that runs past heaps of debris. Once spruced up, it will feature roadsigns saying "Jalan George Bush dan

But in Teungoh Blang Me, a former university student named Almizan denounced the United States while taking a break from laboring to rejuvenate the village rice paddies — and being paid \$3.70 a day by the U.S. government to do it.

While the once not infrequent anti-U.S. demonstrations in Aceh have stopped and polls show that since the tsunami Americans are more favorably regarded in Indonesia at large, Madris Mardani of the radical Islamic Defenders Front believes the United States is up to no good. He insists it recently pressured the Indonesian government to hike gasoline prices and suspects it's getting involved in Aceh — "just like in the governing of Afghanistan" — because Aceh is the only Indonesian province that enforces Islamic law.

Theft: Fifty percent of thefts aren't reported

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Ellis said.

"They're doing it really fast," he said. When parking their car, students should remove everything of value, including stereo faceplates and removable speakers, Ellis said.

Car owners should also make sure that nothing of value is visible in the car, Ellis said.

Ellis recommends having a trusted friend drive the car during the break so the vehicle is not left in one spot and trying to park in a visible location.

Lack of prosecution by the district attorney's office, increased drug activity and a limited number of police officers on patrol contribute to the increase, Ellis said.

Students should also report a break-in, no matter how small the theft, Ellis said.

Police aren't likely to catch the thief, but Ellis said 50 percent of thefts are not reported, which makes it difficult for police to track crime.

"The best thing we can do is educate the public to make themselves less likely to be a victim," he said. "We'd rather not have the crime at all."

Over the Thanksgiving weekend, eight cars where reportedly broken into in the University area that Ellis monitors, he said.

University student Elisabeth Foitle's 2000 Toyota 4Runner was broken into over Thanksgiving break after she left it parked outside her home near East 16th Avenue and Mill Street while visiting her friend's family in Klamath Falls.

The would-be thief broke the driver's door lock but didn't get into the vehicle. Foitle was a victim of theft earlier this year when someone broke into her car and stole clothing and perfume, she said.

John Lesh, a junior at the University of Montana, was visiting friends when his car was broken into between midnight and 3 a.m. Thursday. Lesh said bags of clothing, a snowboard and an iPod were stolen, totaling more than \$2,000 in losses.

> Contact the crime, health and safety reporter at kgagnon@dailyemerald.com



